



Kitchener's up-and-coming nightlife

Arts & Life, page 11

# THE CORD

THE TIE THAT BINDS  
WILFRID LAURIER  
UNIVERSITY  
SINCE 1926

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## ACADEMICS

### TAs, prof discuss training

KATE TURNER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's no question that teaching assistants play a pivotal role in university students' lives. For many, they are the instructor they interact with the most, who predominantly marks their work and the person they go to if they're struggling with school or personal issues.

In late October, an e-mail went out to the employees of Wilfrid Laurier University, including TAs, stating that each employee would need to complete training on the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation and on the Ontario Human Rights Code, in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, by Dec. 1.

For many TAs, this is the only training in terms of sensitivity they have received and for some, this is the only training they have received at all.

Fourth-year health science student Maddison Bibby is a lab TA for CH110. Before the school year began, she was required to complete some training.

"We had about a two-hour training session ... about all the safety requirements you have to remember for all of the labs. They give you a notebook that lists all the different safety requirements for each specific lab you're going to be doing with the classes," she said.

Bibby also had to redo the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System training. However, aside from the required AODA training, there was no sensitivity or diversity training.

Ginny Pecjak is a graduate student in the cultural analysis and social theory program and a TA for a women and gender studies class. Aside from an orientation at the beginning of the year, she said there hasn't been much in terms of training.

"They do host workshops throughout the year as well for TAs, which is nice, but first-time TAing as a masters student, I was really unsure of what I was expected [to do]," she said.

Bibby's hiring process was much different than Pecjak's.

She was required to submit an application to the lab coordinator, whereas Pecjak was offered the position when she was accepted into her masters program.

However, some TAs reported that their only requirement was a minimum GPA, with no formal interview or training.

Sofy Carayannopoulos hires and

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LENA YANG/CREATIVE DIRECTOR

## OUTREACH

### Posters defaced

*Vandalism leads to discussion on the Rainbow Centre's mission*

SHELBY BLACKLEY  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

An incident that invovled some-one defacing posters the Rainbow Centre put up around Wilfrid Laurier University's Waterloo campus was recently brought to the attention of Special Constable Services.

The posters, which were promoting the Rainbow Centre's events for Trans Awareness Week, were vandalized with an equal sign with a slash through it.

The Rainbow Centre was unable to comment further due to this being an ongoing investigation.

As a result of the incident, however, the Rainbow Centre is talking about the type of culture that would allow this to occur.

"When we make outreach campaigns in the community and stuff,

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## OPINION

Is it really worth it to hit snooze on going to class?

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## LOCAL

Waterloo's first-ever LGBTQ bar to open soon

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## SPORTS

Football's Dillon Campbell named MVP by the OUA

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## CAMPUS

How is indigenous culture being taught in schools?

Page 4



# VOCAL CORD

How often do you go to Kitchener to go out?



“That would be zero times.”

–Josefa Piazza, first-year business



“I have not done that once.”

–Carine Djaiani, first-year biology



“All the time.”

–Nadia Akbary, third-year languages



“Not very often ... I used to a lot though.”

–Veronica Gorrell, fourth-year poli sci and North American studies



“Never.”

–Summer Peppard, second-year arts

Compiled by Katysha Manning  
Photos by Kha Vo

## PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



ANDREAS PATSIAOUIROS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Nicole Morrison is a weightlifter, on top of being on the basketball team.



JESSICA DIK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
A goalie watches as a fight is broken up at the Laurier-UQTR game Sunday.

## Spot the Saad

Every week The Cord will hide this picture of WLUSP president Dani Saad in an image. When you find him, tweet at @cordnews using the hashtag #spottheSaad and tell us where he is.



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FROM COVER

# An incentive for change

*The Rainbow Centre is trying to alter the way they are viewed on campus*

—cover  
people feel that we are encroaching on their space and forcing ourselves on them, when in reality we just want to raise awareness and help to educate people,” said Ashley Lieu, administration for the Rainbow Centre.

A big issue for those who are part of the Diversity and Equity Office is how the general public at Laurier views the Rainbow Centre.

“I feel like a lot of people consider us to be a club, but that’s not what we are,” said Joy Sherwood, library and resources coordinator for the Rainbow Centre. “We are a resource on campus and we are part of the diversity and equity office on campus. Although we are volunteer-run, we exist to create a safer space for the LGBTQ community.”

“A lot of people don’t realize that and see us as, ‘Oh, you’re the gay club,’ ” she continued.

Mils Arden, events coordinator at the Rainbow Centre, explained how the DEO as a whole is there to serve students and provide the support students may need.

“I think the key point here is that we’re a service,” Arden said. “And we take the service part probably the most seriously because we’re not a club ... by service, it means education, it means support, it means a safer place. We have to promote that

“It’s not so much us forcing ourselves onto other people, but letting them know there’s more and a wide range of issues...”

—Ashley Lieu, administration for Rainbow Centre

because we’re part of the university structure.”

An environment of inclusivity exists at Laurier, explained Karli Ferriolo, marketing and outreach coordinator for the Rainbow Centre. Ferriolo said students may feel the DEO is not accessible because it’s staffed by “professionals,” but the centres are student-run.

“We’re trying to make the student community more aware that we exist and we are open and we are welcome for all of those to come and join all of these different things,” Ferriolo said.

When asked what the next step is for helping to change the way the DEO —and specifically the Rainbow Centre — is perceived, no one knew how to answer.

It’s a big question, Lieu explained. “I feel like the DEO as a whole needs to be recognized,” Arden said.



LENA YANG/CREATIVE DIRECTOR

“It’s not just the Rainbow Centre, it’s all of us.”

“It’s not so much forcing ourselves onto other people, but letting them know there’s more and a wide range of issues that maybe they aren’t aware of,” Lieu said.

However, there are strides the Rainbow Centre has made and they are in the process of “making cohesive the different services on campus.”

The centre is in the process of its

first run-through of a lecture series, which allows people of different identities that aren’t normally discussed to talk about their experiences and place in society as marginalized groups.

This week the centre held three lectures for Trans Awareness Week. Thursday is also the International Transgender Day of Remembrance vigil, held in uptown Waterloo Square at 6 p.m.

The DEO is also collaborating

with the Aboriginal Student Centre, Laurier International and is hoping to collaborate with the Graduate Students’ Association.

But Lieu, Sherwood, Ferriolo and Arden recognized there’s a long way to go before the DEO is finally perceived as the support service Laurier needs.

“But there’s very little that is more than what we’re doing now. And there are struggles with that,” Sherwood said.

STARTUP



SERENA GILL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Robert Beamish is a UW student and cofounder of the startup, Anokasan.

# Breaking cultural barriers

*Anokasan startup links communities across the globe*

VERONICA PUISTONEN  
CORD NEWS

A University of Waterloo student, along with a partner based in Hong Kong, has recently launched a new startup that coordinates with people across the globe.

The company, Anokasan, was founded by Robert Beamish, a fourth-year economics and business student at UW and Evan Wilcox.

Together, the two work to connect Canadian Aboriginal energy, infrastructure and mining projects with Asian-based investors, as well as to break down culture barriers and increase business opportunities for First Nations people.

Wilcox currently resides in Hong Kong, while Beamish is based in Toronto.

“Our end objective is to bring prosperity to Aboriginal communities in Canada in partnership with East Asian countries,” Beamish explained.

Wilcox said the idea for Anokasan came to him last year during a conversation he had with a senior trade official from the Canadian consulate in Hong Kong.

“She said that one day, someone is going to figure out how to connect First Nations with Asia, and that is where I got the idea from.”

Beamish interned at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce where he met Wilcox, who was working there

full-time. Sharing the common experience of working in Hong Kong, they collaborated to form Anokasan.

“We both came to the same conclusion that we’ve come across something very big and that a strong partnership would be the best thing to do to take this forward,” Beamish said.

Wilcox is the current director of the start-up, working on investor outreach and relations to find potential projects for the company. He also plans investor delegations and cultural education centres to help diminish the cultural barriers between Asian and Native cultures. Beamish is the business development manager, focusing on engagement from the Aboriginal side, as well as dealing with legal and administration roles.

“The proudest moment of the company so far is just getting the response we’ve been getting from the idea and it’s been really fulfilling,” said Wilcox. “Both Aboriginals and Asian-based investors are both very eager to work with us. That’s probably the best thing that’s come so far. It’s nice to see your own idea responded to in positive ways.”

In regard to future plans for the company, Wilcox said, “We want to keep growing the way we’re growing and to find more and more partners to work with on both sides. Also, to not just focus on energy, mining and infrastructure, but to branch out a little bit more as well and to export

First Nations goods to Asia, such as timber and fish.”

Beamish added that they want to diversify their investor base outside of Hong Kong and China, potentially expanding to Japan, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan to engage investors from those locations.

According to Wilcox, balancing communication between Canada and Asia has been a challenge.

“My partner is in Toronto and a lot of our First Nations contacts are in British Columbia and Alberta, so you have to work around their time. There are a lot of late nights involved.”

Beamish said despite that, the communication has been working so far.

“A lot of our work and communication happens in the morning and at night, but I’m still in school so staying up late three hours on the computer isn’t so foreign to me.”

In becoming an entrepreneur, Beamish said he had to become very open to learning to share his ideas, which he said is important for students looking to take this career path.

“Sharing those ideas, getting validation from the community and engaging people early on and surrounding yourself with like-minded people is just going to give you new perspectives or push your idea forward to make something happen,” he said.



CULTURAL AWARENESS

# A gap in education

Exploring the prevalence of content on indigenous cultures in classrooms

MARISSA EVANS  
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Members of the Wilfrid Laurier University community agree, the presence of indigenous history and issues in the education system in Ontario is improving, but still has a long way to go.

“There is education in your grade four social studies class and your basic intro to grade 10 history, there’s a little bit of education,” explained Liam Flagg, programming assistant at the Aboriginal Student Centre.

“But unless you’re willing to go and find those indigenous based courses, there’s nothing for you to get that basic education.”

In order for this to improve, he said it needs to be integrated into every grade from kindergarten to grade 12. At the university level, indigenous content needs to be added into every department.

Jenny Kerber, an assistant professor in the English department, explained that she discusses indigenous culture in her courses because she believes it’s important for people living in Canada to know about.

“I also think it’s important because a lot of people think colonialism in Canada is something that happened in the past and that we’ve moved beyond that now,” she continued.

“But that’s not true. I think Canada is a continuing colonial space that demands that we reckon with some of those histories and issues.”

She would also like to see indigenous content be integrated more broadly into curriculum.

Currently she teaches EN280, Indigenous Writers in English, but also integrates indigenous literature into her EN108 course, Literature and the Environment.

“I think on a larger scale it’s easier to ignore what you don’t understand.”

-Liam Flagg, programming assistant at the Aboriginal Student Centre

Kevin Spooner, associate professor of North American studies, teaches NO105, Billionaires, Beavers and Banditos, and NO211, Canadian Identities and Cultures which both include indigenous content.

Recently, North American Studies made the decision to rework the curriculum of the department and decided Indigenous peoples should be part of the core curriculum.

Spooner explained he went to Jean Becker, senior advisor of aboriginal initiatives, for advice about how to navigate this change.

“It’s hard because you want to be able to do it in a meaningful way and in a very respectful way,” said Spooner, in terms of incorporating Indigenous culture into coursework.

“I’m always trying to be cognizant that this is a white guy teaching these issues.”

Flagg noted there are no aboriginal professors who teach at the Waterloo campus. While this is a shortcoming, Spooner said in the meantime it is important for students to gain an understanding of Aboriginal Peoples.

“Every Canadian student should have some really good appreciation of just exactly what’s owed to Aboriginal peoples who were fundamentally here first,” Spooner said.



WILL HUANG/PHOTO EDITOR

The Aboriginal Student Centre holds a soup lunch every Tuesday afternoon which all students are welcome to.

“Who have been incredibly disadvantaged in so many ways post-colonization.”

Spooner and Kerber both noted that often non-indigenous students feel guilty when confronted with the legacy of colonization. Flagg explained that the Aboriginal Student Centre frequently have students coming in who want to know how to help.

The centre is currently putting the finishing touches on an allyship document that will help further educate non-indigenous students who want to take part in engaging with Indigenous issues.

There may however, be reluctance in some classes to include indigenous history and issues despite its natural fit in the content.

“I think on a large scale it’s easier to ignore what you don’t understand,” Flagg said.

When teaching about literature, for example, bringing indigenous perspectives can complicate teaching. He used his experience as a global studies student as an example.

“We talk about this idea of colonization but we never actually talk about the indigenous people of these areas because it’s easier to write the narratives without them,” he said.

Kerber believes this reluctance may be due to fear of offending.

“I think there’s a certain anxiety that comes with, for instance, coming out of settler culture and you don’t quite feel like the situation is just or right that we live in in society, and yet you don’t know how to change it and you don’t really want to feel responsible for changing it,” she said

Students also need to be aware that indigenous issues extend into contemporary society as well. In her courses, Kerber also touches on these contemporary issues, such as the lasting impacts of residential schools.

“The ripple effects from residential schools continue to echo I think through the generations,” she said.

“Where you have young people whose parents or grandparents who were in residential schools and com-

munities are still dealing with the effects of that and I think Canadian society as a whole is still dealing with the effects of that.”

Flagg highlighted the Idle No More movement, as well as the issue of missing and murdered aboriginal women.

“Just recently we had a bill that was almost passed that would’ve been detrimental to First Nation education but it was taken out, for now.”

There also needs to be a change in education in reserves.

“What you need to do is allow more indigenous control over Indigenous education, but also a realization that the education system on reserves right now is very much broken and that affects the fact that a lot of indigenous people can’t come to university.”

Spooner believes the level of education on indigenous peoples is gradually improving.

“The trajectory seems to be going in a positive direction over time, but I don’t think it’s going fast enough.”

FIRST-YEARS

# Task force focuses on Orientation Week

KAITLYN SEVERIN  
LEAD REPORTER

With both the change to Orientation Week and the implementation of fall reading week, the first-year experience task force has much to evaluate in the coming months.

Over the past six months they have already made progress in their goal to review the first-year experience at Wilfrid Laurier University and make improvements that will ensure first-year student success.

One recent progression is their release of a report which outlines the four goals of the task force: academic achievement, accepting responsibility, health and well-being and community engagement. Each prompts discussion about how students can have a well-rounded experience. They will be analyzing the first-year experience according to these perspectives. The report was released in the late spring/early summer.

Created in December 2012, the task force is chaired by David McMurray, vice-president of student affairs, and Deborah MacLatchy, vice-president of academic and provost. McMurray emphasized the four goals in the report already have a high success rate among first-years and the task force.

“We’re really excited about the report and we recognize a lot of re-

ally great things are happening in the first-year experience already,” said McMurray.

Looking forward, one of the areas the task force will be evaluating is O-Week.

The task force has started receiving results from the National Survey on Student Engagement. In the survey, O-Week was given high regards by the students despite the change as a result of a new fall reading week being implemented.

“First-year students are rating their first-year experience very highly here, so a very good response,” McMurray explained. “Orientation was probably the most successful ever this year where classes started at the Thursday [and] where they didn’t start on the following Monday in years past, so students felt they were balanced a little bit more than in the past.”

As well, the task force will be looking at the impacts of the new fall reading week on first-year students.

According to McMurray, an ad hoc committee was created by Pat Rogers, associate vice president of teaching and learning, which will recommend qualitative and quantitative ways of evaluating the impact of the week.

Residence students will also be surveyed in terms of how the week impacted their academic success



JOSHUA AWOLADE/GRAPHICS EDITOR

and personal wellness. Lastly, the task force will be connecting with other universities in Ontario who have recently implemented fall reading weeks to compare data.

While looking at the academic impact these changes may have had on first-year students will be important, McMurray said it is still too early to analyze the grades of students and

be able to comment on this.

McMurray explained that staff involved with the first-year experience has been positive, taking in feedback on how to enhance and improve it.

“We’re able to work with our staff in continuing all of their efforts even before the Senate Committee on Student Learning ... happens,” said McMurray.

“First-year students are rating their first-year experience very highly here.”

-David McMurray, vice president of student affairs

The Senate Committee on Student Learning is responsible for academic regulations and policies relating to the university learning environment.

This year, McMurray is overseeing all of Laurier’s residence operations, including first-year leader programs and residence learning communities.

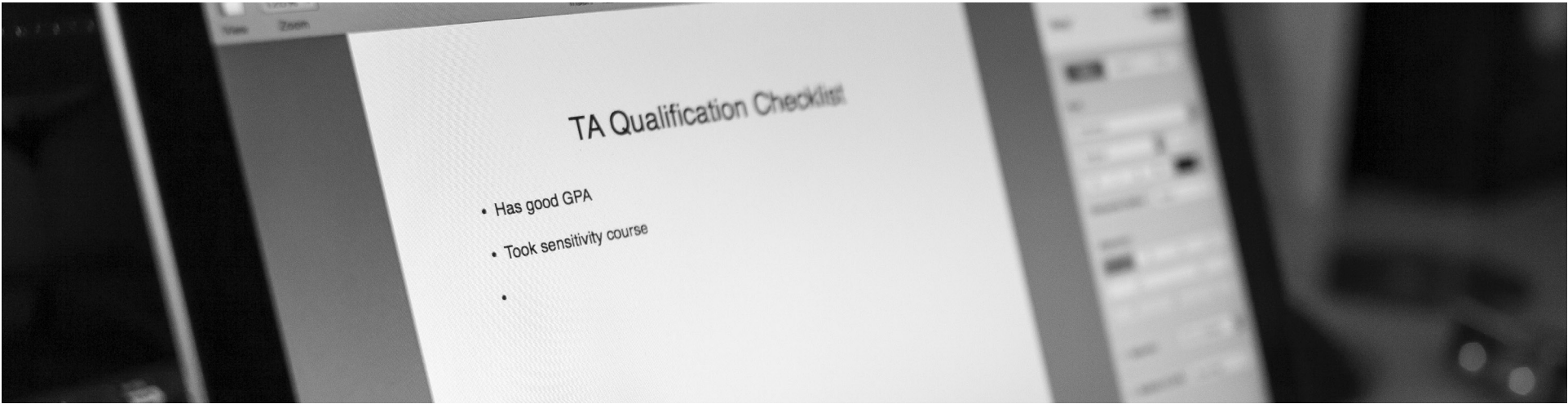
The first-year task force has also advanced Laurier’s Off Campus University Student residence to allow them to have a connected experience with on-campus residence students.

For now, McMurray and MacLatchy are working closely with their associate vice presidents, the deans, directors and coordinators and all their staff on programs and efforts to support the first-year experience.

“The response from our first-year students so far has a lot to do with the success of orientation,” concluded McMurray.



FROM COVER



WILL HUANG/PHOTO EDITOR

Teaching assistants in the faculty of arts are just required to give their GPA as a prerequisite. Business and science TAs are given comprehensive training before dealing directly with students.

# Reviewing TA training standards

—cover trains TAs for BU111 and BU121. She said in order for students to be hired, they must meet a GPA requirement, submit an application and be interviewed. Once hired, the training process is quite comprehensive.

“The training is an entire weekend that takes place usually the weekend before classes start. They’re given work to prepare in advance, so the training is not just what happens on that weekend,” she said.

“With respect to business 111, they’re assigned a particular course concept that I know students struggle with and they were asked to come up with a way to demonstrate or teach it or explain it that is innovative and memorable.”

“They’re mini instructors ... those are all things that are not taught in lecture — they’re taught in lab so we need to make sure the TAs are appropriately trained to do that teaching.”

According to Carayannopoulos, they also complete sensitivity training at this time.

“We do talk about what are the dif-

ferent reasons that a student might not be fully contributing to a group project or why aren’t they participating in lab, what might be the reasons for not seeming engaged with their peers,” she said. “Don’t automatically assume that it’s a student that’s unmotivated, lazy, couldn’t care less, doesn’t want to be there. There are many reasons that could be underlying.”

One example she gave is the difficulty of working with international students with possible language barriers, while ensuring TAs are “providing appropriate support so they can develop the skills or deliver at the level expected.”

Pecjak encountered this situation, as one of her students is from Chile and speaks Spanish as her first language.

“We unfortunately weren’t able to help her out in the way we would have wanted because unfortunately neither myself or the prof speaks Spanish as a language,” she explained.

“They don’t teach us that speci-

“They’re mini instructors ... those are all things that are not taught in lecture.”

—Sofy Carayannopoulos, associate professor of business

cally ... you’re not given that cultural sensitivity.”

Some TAs report to their coordinators, but some don’t have a person they can turn to with questions and concerns.

“It’s hard to know things like do I proctor exams, how long am I expected to TA for, do I have to help with the final exam, things like that ... I don’t feel like there are general guidelines,” Pecjak said.

“I have absolutely no issue with my prof ... but what happens if you do? How do you discuss conflict of interest, things like that?”

One recurring issue students and TAs encounter is consistency with marking and teaching. Because there often isn’t a coordinator organizing all of the TAs, some students may feel they’re getting a different experience in one section versus another.

“Laura [Allan, the BU111 and BU121 co-coordinator] and I work really hard to ensure consistency in the lab experience to make sure that regardless of the lab that you’re in as a student, you get the same quality, the same attention, the same support, and I think the TAs are very good,” Carayannopoulos said.

She continued that they have even tested group marking on exams, meaning that groups of TAs would work together to mark a final. One student is assigned to a specific question on the exam, so each one is marked the same to ensure consistency.

“Students want to feel like they’re being fairly, consistently evaluated in comparison to their peers.”

Similarly, chemistry TAs receive a handbook on marking to ensure lab

reports are marked equally, according to Bibby.

“There’s not a lot of leeway because a lot of the marks for first-year are for calculations,” she said.

However, Pecjak found marking much more difficult because there were no guidelines for her.

“I had never marked before, so it would have been nice for there to be a resource on working with rubrics, how to effectively mark,” she said.

“Especially with first-year students, it’s really, really hard to know what students know, how they know how to do it.”

Though being a TA looks great on a résumé and provides students with many skills, it should be a positive experience for them.

This is something Carayannopoulos truly believes in.

“I think it’s important that as instructors when we use TAs, we need to think of the experience not just from the student’s perspective ... but also what we as instructors give to the TA as experience and what they take from it,” she said.



KHA VO/LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

The university agreed to clear the debris in the residence parking lot.

## STUDENT CONCERNS

# Debris an issue at residence parking lot

*Student raises concerns of rubble found at Laurier Place*

**SHELBY BLACKLEY**  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Ross Howey was sick of parking his car beside debris.

The fifth-year political science student at Wilfrid Laurier University bought a parking pass at the beginning of the semester for 31 Lot, which is at Laurier Place residence.

However, over the past three months, Howey has dealt with debris such as dirt, bricks, concrete and chopped trees being kept in the lot.

“I thought maybe it was a temporary thing and I left it, until about a week and a half ago,” he explained.

However, the issue continued.

When the parking lot of the Aboriginal Student Centre was torn up, the chunks of concrete were stored in the Laurier Place parking lot and blocked off entire parking spaces.

Early last week, Howey took his complaint about the debris to the university.

He e-mailed parking and transportation, the office of the president, public relations and the health and safety department.

“It wasn’t until the end of the week that I heard from anybody and they said they were going to look into it and clean it by midweek.”

To Howey, the debris seemed like

“... I’d like to see focus given to the whole campus and not just the main parts.”

—Ross Howey, fifth-year political science student

a safety hazard. The piles of debris were getting covered by snow, and could look like ordinary snow piles, he explained.

“That parking lot is behind a large apartment building and an easy way for any resident there that’s a Laurier student to sneak through.”

Gary Nower, assistant vice-president of physical resources, didn’t know about the debris until Howey brought the complaint forward.

Once the university found out, they worked toward getting it removed.

“I don’t know the specifics, but I’m assuming because [Laurier Place] is not being used and it’s closed, they were probably doing work on other parts of campus and stored stuff temporarily and didn’t get around to moving it,” he explained.

While Nower respected that the

parking was a legitimate complaint, he doesn’t think the debris left in Laurier Place’s parking lot is a health and safety issue.

“It’s wrong that it’s taking up parking spots, and the [workers] have assured me they have dealt with it, but to say that’s a health and safety issue is a bit of a stretch.”

In an e-mail on Monday, James Emary, the area manager of grounds services, said there was a “lack of communication with regards to the area.”

He continued that workers for Laurier is working on “getting the area cleaned up for students to park and make it safe.”

Nower explained that much of the issue was a lack of communication.

“[It’s] just a misunderstanding,” he said.

“I think probably what happened was James did some work on the walkways and put the rubble there, thinking that Laurier Place’s parking wasn’t in use.”

Howey felt like Laurier Place was being “ignored” with the debris being left over and hopes Laurier will give attention to all parts of its campus.

“My biggest concern was why did it get left so long because I’d like to see focus given to the whole campus and not just the main parts,” he said.



PROFILE

# Written voices heard

Students chosen for workshop

KAITLYN SEVERIN  
LEAD REPORTER

Two students from Wilfrid Laurier University have been chosen to be part of a workshop with Lawrence Hill, author of the award-winning book, *The Book of Negroes*.

Cheyenne Goolcharan, a fourth-year honours global studies student, and Vanessa Chambers-Stewart, a second-year Spanish and women and gender studies student, are two of the 25 participants who were accepted to attend the workshop.

“I freaked out right away because Lawrence Hill is one of my favourite authors,” said Goolcharan.

Both Goolcharan and Chambers-Stewart explained that Thandiwe Gregg, member liaison for the Laurier Association of Black Students, sent an e-mail to members promoting the workshop.

Chambers-Stewart said Gregg recommended the workshop to her because of her work on Laurier’s “Afro Excel,” which is an online magazine platform community that connects all members of ABS at different institutions.

Goolcharan has been a part of ABS at Laurier since she was a general member in first-year until she became the executive member liaison in third-year.

Chambers-Stewart has been a general member since first year.



Cheyenne Goolcharan (left) and Vanessa Chambers-Stewart (right) were chosen to be part of a workshop on Nov. 29 with author Lawrence Hill. HEATHER DAVIDSON/PHOTO EDITOR

The application process for the workshop was intimidating and difficult, according to both students. Applications were due on Oct. 22, and the acceptances were sent out last week. The workshop, called “Creative Writing: An Introduction to How to Write and Publish Fiction and Non-Fiction,” is on Nov. 29 at the Barbara Frum Library in Toronto.

Goolcharan said the workshop was advertised for students who

“I freaked out right away because Lawrence Hill is one of my favourite authors.”

-Cheyenne Goolcharan, fourth-year global studies student

wanted to get their writing published.

Although she is planning on writing a novel in the future, she said she’s not a huge writer.

“I don’t really have anything. All I have is poems because I’m a poet, so I sent in one of my poems and low and behold, they liked it,” she explained.

According to Chambers-Stewart, taking a snippet from one of her novels was the hardest part of the application process.

The application required a résumé and a piece of written work.

“At first, I was scared, but I thought about it and was like, ‘Okay, let me just go for it,’” Chambers-Stewart said.

Chambers-Stewart writes a variety of poems and novels and has had a few of her works published with other compilations of young writers.

Her first published piece was in a

writing club in her grade school.

Both Goolcharan and Chambers-Stewart claim to be huge fans of Hill’s *The Book of Negroes*, as well as his other work, *Blood*.

“He’s very inspirational and he’s kind of an iconic Canadian writer,” said Goolcharan.

Both students hope to gain personal and professional experience through the workshop.

“I just hope to learn from his wisdom and see the potential that I have to be a writer, because that’s what I’m planning to do, and I want to network with people as well,” said Goolcharan.

“From this workshop, I hope to gain more experience and I hope to gain connections through publishing. I feel my voice is very important and needs to be heard and just building a relationship with him and all the members,” Chambers-Stewart said.

“I feel my voice is very important and needs to be heard.”

-Vanessa Chambers-Stewart, second-year Spanish and women and gender studies student

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TECHNOLOGY

# ICT gathers student input

ERIKA YMANA  
STAFF WRITER

The information and communication technologies department at Wilfrid Laurier University is looking to improve their services. Department members were situated in the Concourse last week to speak with students about the services they are offering and how they can further improve.

ICT placed large boards up in the Concourse for students to place dots on the subjects they felt needed improvement or more attention.

According to Ken Boyd, director of ICT solutions, the biggest issue they heard about from students was WiFi.

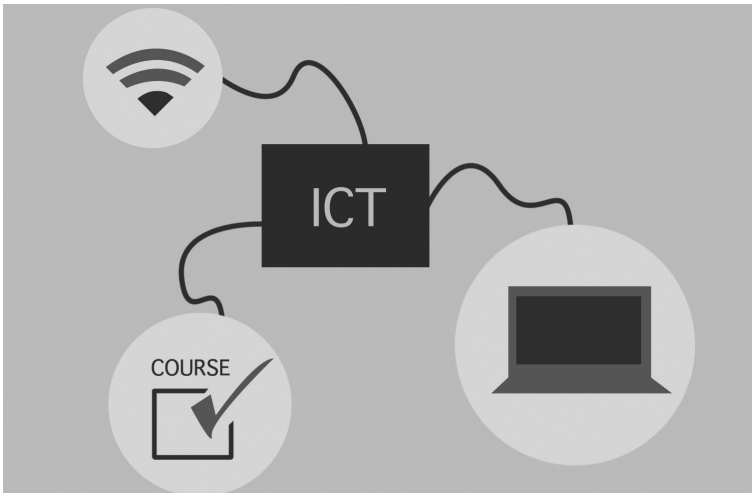
“WiFi needs a lot of attention. We’re not really surprised with that, but it is the big topic that students wanted us to look into,” he explained.

Boyd saw this as a growing issue on Twitter, but urged students to reach out and let the department know if there are other issues. They are slowly working on this issue and began with residences on both campuses throughout the summer. Now, residence connectivity can only be accessed through WiFi, which began in September.

Boyd added that while they are fixing WiFi for greater access in lecture halls, students using their smart phones as WiFi hot spots further inhibit access because these phones are competing for that same signal.

“So in large exams that are being done online, the first thing the professor has been instructed to say is to shut off smart phones,” he said.

“This will free up some resources for



JOSHUA AWOLADE/GRAPHICS EDITOR

students to get access to the WiFi connection.”

Melanie More-Duckworth, manager of ICT service desks and student support, explained that the student service desk located in the Concourse is the primary point of contact for students.

As for the next steps, feedback from both campuses will be reviewed and areas that were indicated with greater need for improvement will be focused on.

“We got some feedback on our computer labs and how long it takes to log in, so we got some specific areas where we can improve and get the immediate impact on students, so that’s kind of what the next step is,” said More-Duckworth.

“We’re looking at those areas and how we can improve the overall student experience.”

Another issue ICT will be looking to improve is the class registration

process. The feedback from surveys the department sends out indicates rapid improvement within the past couple of years.

“About one-third of students were satisfied with their registration two years ago, [50 per cent] last year, to two-thirds being satisfied this year. There were a few key areas that we know were bad ... we’re working on that,” said Boyd.

According to Boyd, the ICT department is focused on providing the best student experience, and looking forward to making large improvements year after year.

“We’re listening to what the students have to say,” said More-Duckworth.

“This is the first event of this type that we’ve ever had where openly solicited feedback from the students on IT and that’s what we’re interested in, keeping that open communication between ICT and the students.”



NIGHTLIFE

# Waterloo's first LGBTQ bar opening

Coming soon to uptown, The Order hopes to promote acceptance of all genders and sexualities



JESSICA DIK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Order, located at King Street and Princess Street in uptown Waterloo, hopes to serve the large LGBTQ community in Waterloo, which the owners believe are “underserved.”

AMY SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

This month, members of the LGBTQ community will have a new spot to visit with the opening of Waterloo's first ever gay bar.

Kitchener-Waterloo locals Devon McKenzie, Rami Said and Brett Cullen are opening The Order, a gay bar where both LGBTQ and straight persons can visit and feel comfortable while meeting people.

The idea came to owners Said and McKenzie when they realized Waterloo was in need of a bar dedicated to the building up and support of the LGBTQ community.

“Waterloo does have a very large LGBTQ community which is very underserved. A lot of our friends are part of the community and have

the same problem where there's just nowhere to go,” Said stated.

The bar's name is derived from The Order of Chaeronea, an underground society in the late 1800s that provided a means of education on homosexuality and communication.

The goal of the bar is to promote acceptance of all genders and sexualities in K-W.

“The whole idea is to have a nice protected space where no matter who you are or what you believe in you can come in and feel comfortable and not feel you're being judged or persecuted. Even with our security, our goal is to train them to know their job is not to offend people and to resolve any issues of offending,” Said continued.

The bar, located in uptown Waterloo, will try to attract university

students as well as an older crowd by having theme nights with different atmospheres to suit certain groups.

In terms of hiring, Said explained they are open to anyone but have a focus on the LGBTQ population because they are an underemployed demographic.

The general reaction to the opening has been completely positive with a lot of support from surrounding bars and venues, according to Said.

“Waterloo has a very large gay community in terms of our population. We have a very accepting community as well. Everybody is very supportive and other bars are already talking about throwing events together to kind of build up the community,” he said.

As Waterloo's first gay bar, they

“Waterloo does have a very large LGBTQ community which is very underserved.”

-Rami Said, co-owner of The Order

have a bar that caters to the LGBTQ community.

“Before this, meeting someone else who was gay was just a matter of chance when it was actually face-to-face. Now there will be a place where, should someone want to, gays can go to socialize with each other,” said Paron.

The opening of the bar is about joining the community of LGBTQ with the rest of the population and strengthening the ties between the two.

“Us opening has opened up a lot of conversation that hasn't been opened up before and a lot of the responses have been positive so it's a great thing to see,” Said concluded.

They have yet to release an official opening date, but according to their Facebook page they are nearly ready.

TRANSIT

# Construction for ION underway

Early stages of light rail transit project beginning in Waterloo

CONNOR WARD  
LEAD REPORTER

The construction for the Region of Waterloo's ION light rail transit project is underway and is expected to stay on schedule for completion in 2017. With the early stages of the project starting to pick up, residents in Waterloo may start to see noticeable signs of ION construction.

The project is a collection of transportation and infrastructure updates designed to increase the flow of people in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

The project takes a two-pronged approach, not only creating a new electric light-rail transit train system, but also updating the more traditional transit approaches with the adapted bus rapid transit system.

“We're in the initial stages where some construction has begun, but we're still doing a lot of design,” said Darshpreet Bhatti, director of rapid transit at the Region of Waterloo.

“We're hoping early next year the design stage will be finished, so we will be doing mostly construction.”

The light rail side of the project will require the construction of 19 kilometres of track, with various stations along the way.

The construction can be broken into several stages, which have already begun with moving utilities

“But, I would say if there's one big factor, it's inclement weather.”

-Darshpreet Bhatti, director of rapid transit at the Region of Waterloo

and will move on to ground work, laying physical track and finishing with infrastructure.

“Our construction so far has been focused on prep work and moving utilities,” said Bhatti.

“So next year is almost civil, moving utilities and laying track, and 2016 is finalizing that and moving surface equipment.”

Concerning the aBRT portion of the ION project, people in the K-W area should be seeing completion and rollout sometime in the next year.

The new rapid bus system requires 17 kilometres of new routes to be prepared, which means new road and infrastructure construction.

“On the aBRT side, construction is about 70 per cent done. We have a number of stations, and some of them are nearing completion and some are part way through comple-



SERENA GILL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ION construction has already begun in uptown Waterloo on Caroline Street between Erb Street and William Street.

tion,” said Bhatti.

“Expect to have it completely done early next year, and we are looking into how it can be unveiled as an ION project either in the spring or in the fall.”

Much concern has also been expressed about the financial nature of the project, as seen in the most recent municipal elections when a swath of candidates ran on the promise to stop the project. Even though many of the elected representatives in the K-W area are pro-LRT, the uneasiness with the project still lingers.

“It's a fixed-fee build, so unless we

start changing the scope, that is the cost it will take for us to complete the project,” said Bhatti.

“People have different expectations than the package that goes out and start asking for changes, and my role as the project manager is that we draw a reasonable balance. There will be certain things we can consider, but some might go beyond the scope. So unless council is willing to allocate the cost, my position will be that we cannot accommodate it.”

Other concerns surrounding the project have to do with possible construction delays. Although construction is currently on schedule

to be completed by 2017 for light rail and 2015 for rapid bus transit, there is still time for an issue to arise that could potentially halt progress.

“You can always mobilize staff and purchase equipment early, but if the weather is not supportive then there's only so much that can be done. This is a design build — this has a lump-sum cost, so GrandLinq is obligated and aware of their risk, so they will get the resources and the job done,” said Bhatti, referring to the company that is heading building and operating the project.

“But, I would say if there's one big factor, it's inclement weather.”



ACADEMICS

# UW still hesitant about fall break

Despite 74 per cent of students wanting fall reading week, a decision won't be made until 2015

DAINA GOLDFINGER  
LEAD REPORTER

After a referendum earlier this month, students at the University of Waterloo have made it clear they want a fall reading week.

The referendum was held by the Federation of Students and found that 74 per cent of the 6,000 students who voted were in favour of the implementation of a reading week in the fall term.

UW is now beginning to take these results into account and will be holding another vote in the fall of 2015. Following this consultation, if the decision is made based on this consultation to implement a fall reading week, it will be inserted into the fall 2016 term.

“We have had to ... make sure the implications of introducing a two- to three-day reading week in the fall could be accommodated,” said Nick Manning, director of media relations and issues management at UW.

According to Manning, the implementation of a reading week could affect various factions of the university, including Orientation Week, class start date, exam schedules, residency staff, housing and more.

The main reason why UW has been hesitant to make the change however, is because of specific existing academic programs and the co-op work placements that may not work to conform to the fall reading week.

“One of the challenges that Waterloo faces, which is really very unique to us, is our co-op education model,” said Manning.



THIVIYA KANAGASABESAN/CORD PHOTOGRAPHY

14 universities in Ontario, including Laurier, have already implemented fall reading week. UW will hold another vote next year before making a decision.

In order to test the impact of the reading week, depending on the results of the consultation, there may be a trial reading week that is implemented for a two- to three-year period.

According to Manning, 14 universities in Ontario have implemented fall reading week, with Wilfrid Laurier University implementing one this past year.

“It is not a straightforward thing we can implement without significant consideration,” said Manning.

If the prospect to implement a reading week is carried forward, it

is possible that UW will implement the break in conjunction with the Thanksgiving long weekend. There may be problems here, however, as Thanksgiving falls on different dates every year.

Michael Lipton, a fourth-year biomedical science student at UW, believes fall reading week would be extremely beneficial to students.

“I think it is a smart decision as it will help reduce stress of a lot of students, which will be especially important for students in their first year,” he said.

Manning believes that the imple-

mentation of a fall reading week could help reduce stress amongst students as well, specifically first-year students who are in a “pressure cooker environment.”

These efforts could ultimately help to promote mental health efforts and well-being.

“We will go forward with this consultation, but in conjunction with other wellness efforts on campus to make sure students understand how they can maintain their time, how best to capitalize on breaks they get, how best to manage stress in that pressure cooker,” said Manning.

“It is not a straightforward thing we can implement without significant consideration.”

-Nick Manning, director of media relations and issues management at UW

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LABOUR



JESSICA DIK/FILE PHOTO

# Part-time profs beyond the classroom

EMMA MCPHEE  
THE BRUNSWICKAN

FREDERICTON (CUP) — Students know all too well the pinch of not having enough money, but for many of their professors this is also a familiar reality.

Contract Academic Employees, or part-time professors, make up about 28 per cent of professors at the University of New Brunswick, but they make significantly less money and receive no benefits for a workload that is anything but part-time.

As of May 2014, UNB CAEs are paid a base stipend of \$5,478 per course, with a course limit of three courses per fall and winter term and four in the summer. But it is not always possible to teach the allowed number of courses.

This term, out of 217 CAEs at UNB, only 19 are teaching three or more courses.

Under these circumstances, part-time professors aren’t doing it for the money.

“I guess I [teach] in those terms because I like to teach, I like the students, I like to be in contact with the students. I like the university

atmosphere, I don’t do it because I’m ever going to get rich or have benefits,” said Wendy Bourque, vice-president of the CAE bargaining unit of the Association University of New Brunswick Teachers.

The situation of CAEs is not unique to UNB. It’s part of a growing trend in universities across Canada where post-secondary institutions are increasingly relying on their part-time professor base to offer the courses necessary to keep programs going.

In fact, when a full-time professor retires or leaves to work elsewhere, a part-time professor will often replace the vacant position. A lot of this is decided based on where the university believes funds should be allocated.

“When you’re making a faculty hiring decision, that can be a 30-year career span or longer. You have to take the time at the front end to decide where do you need your resources for the next 30 years, not just where do you need it for next term,” said Peter McDougall, associate vice-president of human resources at UNB.

“And then we are in a situation

where our enrolment is declining for a number of years now so it’s not surprising that then the overall full-time faculty compliment would need to mirror that change. So if there are reallocations of resources going on, while there still remains students in programs, you have to figure out ways to deal with the students who are still in the program.”

This is where the CAEs come in. Out of a total of 1,902 courses being taught at UNB, CAE teaching represents roughly 16 per cent.

“It saves the university money but mostly it gives them incredible flexibility. Because that means the full-time faculty, they’re tenured, you can’t get rid of them,” said Arthur James, a part-time professor and member of the CAE executive of the AUNBT.

“If you want to end a program or something it’s no problem because people work on contracts and when their contract runs out you don’t have a big obligation to fill. They have no obligation really,” said Bourque.

This insecurity is what defines the CAE positions, whereby part-time professors do not receive any ben-

efits along with their low income.

“[Being a CAE] means insecurity and it means a lack of collegiality and respect,” said Bourque.

“It means so many things but I suppose if you were to ask more people it would mean living hand-to-mouth, not having a health plan, not having a pension plan, not having any benefits other than what you earn contract to contract.”

“I think insecurity is the right word and you don’t know for sure whether you are going to be teaching. You don’t know in the spring whether you’re going to be teaching in the fall or not. Or how much you’re going to be teaching,” James said.

Compensation isn’t an issue for all CAEs. There are many reasons a person might choose to become a part-time professor.

“We’re a really diverse group. Some people do this as a way to keep in the university community. For instance, some people may have retired and they’re picking up a class because they really enjoy teaching,” Bourque said.

“Some people do it as their major source of income and that’s their job — they have no other job. And some

people do it as a side to their job, so they’re an engineer maybe and they’re teaching engineering.”

For many, however, the stipend they receive per course is their primary source of income. To put it in perspective, according to Statistics Canada, the low income cut-off before taxes in 2012 for one person was \$20,240 in a community the size of Fredericton. A part-time professor has to teach four courses in order to attain this.

For professors hoping to move up to a full-time position, this creates a problem.

“In order to make a living, you end up teaching as many courses as you possibly can and that means you don’t really have time to do research and it’s research that’s going to get you the full-time position,” said James.

“So if you don’t have publications by the time you get your PhD done or in short order, it’s unlikely that you’re going to get them. And then once you get into that mill, it’s impossible to get out.”

This cycle largely happens behind the scenes, and many students are unaware that the issue exists.

LABOUR

# Internships could replace entry-level positions

RACHEL WARD  
CUP LABOUR BUREAU CHIEF

HALIFAX (CUP) — At this point his words are almost famous among young people.

“If your parents are letting you live in the basement,” said Bank of Canada Governor Stephen Poloz on Nov. 3, “you might as well go out and do something for free to put the experience on your CV.”

He was speaking about unpaid internships students and recent graduates take on when they’re unable to find work. He defended his opinion the next day to a House of Commons finance committee when questioned about how poorer graduates could afford to work unpaid internships.

“I still think that when there are those opportunities,” said Poloz, “one should grab them.”

Similar placements are sometimes mandated by university or college programs for educational work experience. Currently the exact number of people doing such work is unknown, as Statistics Canada doesn’t collect that information in its Labour Force Survey.

In October, youth unemployment was 12.6 per cent, down slightly as fewer young people look for work,

said Statistics Canada. According to a recent Conference Board of Canada survey, employers said applicants and new hires lack essential skills, such as communication, critical thinking and teamwork. That same report shows companies invested 40 per cent less money in on-the-job training from 1993 to 2010. Current opportunities, it says, for “workplace training ... are limited, declining and of questionable impact.”

Karen Foster, a sociology professor at Dalhousie University, said unpaid internships have become a replacement for that training.

“Over the last decade employers are reaching for the unpaid internship first as a way of getting recent graduates and not having to pay anything to train them,” said Foster, who studies economics and youth.

“They’re essentially putting all their risk on young, recent graduates.”

Advocates say unpaid internships are unfair and illegal. Courts seem to agree. Recently in the U.S., major media company Condé Nast agreed to pay \$5.8 million to settle a class-action lawsuit by 7,500 former interns. Condé Nast owns several media brands, including magazines the New Yorker and GQ. Canadian unpaid internship programs have

taken a hit, too. Just this summer in Canada, Bell Aliant shut down its unpaid internship program following court action from ex-interns.

The matter has reached Parliament. In June, NDP MPs Laurin Liu and Andrew Nash proposed an amendment to the Labour Act to include unpaid interns as employees.

Liu said the bill is inspired by Andrew Ferguson, an intern who died in 2011. He fell asleep at the wheel after working an overnight shift at an Edmonton radio station.

“I believe that interns need to benefit from at least basic protections,” said Liu, 24.

“Most of my friends, most of my peers, have recently graduated from university and many of them are working in unpaid internships. I’ve seen how they themselves are vulnerable.”

The bill goes to second reading in early February.

The government has “no shortage of policy solutions,” said Foster, to improve working conditions for interns.

“But they have to be enacted,” said Foster, “instead of just saying, ‘Well, it’s up to the individual to fight over the very last low paid job or unpaid internship.’”



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE



THE PEOPLE YOU MEET  
AT STARBUCKS

What happens when you hang out at Starbucks and ask people to share something interesting about themselves?



Heidi Fan enjoys a soy green tea latte or two. She loves dogs, knitting and is a University of Waterloo student.



Stephanie Chu's (left) favourite drink is a green tea frappuccino. She loves golf and is the captain on UW's team. Vivian Leung (right) is a ballerina who likes passion tea lemonade.



Nicky Langer's favourite drink is a chai latte. She is a dancer and attends Western University.



Sophie Côté enjoys lattes of all kinds. She spends her time playing rugby for the UW Warriors.



Caramel frappuccinos are Lauren Blair's favourite drink from Starbucks. She plays women's hockey for Wilfrid Laurier University.



Snejana Comenov drinks a tall Blonde True North Roast. "I love love," she said.



Sunny Xu (left) likes iced green tea with soy milk and loves travelling and fashion. Edward Chen (right) enjoys a cool passion tea lemonade. He has a special preference for ugly cats.



CULTURE

# Kitchener wants more vibrant nightlife

Looking to attract more students towards the downtown core, the City of Kitchener is adapting



HEATHER DAVIDSON/PHOTO EDITOR

RAFEY SATTAR  
STAFF WRITER

Students at Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo represent an energizing force for our local businesses in Waterloo. Students are vibrant and diverse, clocking in at over 50,000 young adults from all over the province, country and the world. That’s why it’s no surprise businesses in Kitchener want to leverage the thriving student demographic in Waterloo.

“It goes beyond economic development,” said David Marskell, CEO of THEMUSEUM in downtown Kitchener. “It goes to a much higher level narrative. Maybe these students will one day live in this community and help it grow.”

Kitchener has already made plans for growth. After an injection of millions of dollars in investment, the city’s downtown boasts wider sidewalks, better parking and an overall improved streetscape. The

city also has the presence of multiple technology firms like Electronic Arts and Google, along with a number of condo developments to house the yuppie crowd they employ.

Even as professionals move into Kitchener offices for new job opportunities, students are still a very precarious piece of the puzzle when it comes to keeping the city’s economic engine running.

“A lot of the students that attend Laurier have never been to Kitchener before,” said Lindsay Woodside, a lab instructor for Laurier’s human geography course.

“It represents an economic generator,” Woodside continued, acknowledging the importance of the city building a relationship with the students that may one day return to Kitchener as young adults.

Eight years ago when Marskell was working for the Exhibition Place in Toronto, he got the call up to consider the opportunities at THEMUSEUM. At the time Kitchener

wasn’t known for much, aside from its legendary Oktoberfest. “I’d like to change that,” he said, “Not that Oktoberfest isn’t fun.”

Additionally, Kitchener wasn’t known for its welcoming streetscape. “There is a huge stigma,” Marskell continued.

“People who have lived here for a long time think there’s no parking and problems with safety.”

Venues like THEMUSEUM are using a whole lot of local flair and some creative ideas to get students to Kitchener.

Among the local offerings are new restaurants, pubs and stores that appeal to young adults. Woodside’s own project “Together We’re Bitter” Co-operative Brew Pub will also soon grace Kitchener’s streets.

“It’s not just for an older demographic. Students can be interested in experimenting with craft beer too,” said Woodside.

While pricier craft beer and quality food might draw out the young

professional crowd, these establishments are drawing mixed reactions from students.

“If people are looking for a more chill vibe rather than a crazy night they might try that,” said second-year business student Allison Lum. “I don’t think I’d do that for a night out with my friends where we want to get a lot of drinks.”

“I found that [in] first and second years I’d go to clubs,” said Chad Keohane, a fifth-year economics student. “I’ve grown out of that. Now in my later years I look for the bars you can go to have a couple of local beers and maybe grab a bite to eat.”

Even if pubs can usher in older students, the traditional nightlife scene is still the most popular option to draw a crowd from Waterloo. “The only time I go to Kitchener is for Dallas on a Friday night,” said Lum.

To overcome the distance, venues might have to create more of an identity for their establishment, said Duncan Nairne, a second-year sci-

ence student.

“If you end up going all the way out there to find a huge line and you want to leave it’s really inconvenient,” said Keohane.

“They have to somehow make a reputation for a night and own it.”

“I think every club has claimed a night,” Lum echoed.

“If one of the clubs in Kitchener promoted a night more aggressively people would be more willing to try [it out].”

Developing their night life scene while maintaining the local flair of venues will be important to Kitchener as Waterloo’s students progress through their academic careers and eventually settle down into their professional lives.

“Kitchener provides the alternatives in terms of crafty, artisanal places that are starting to creep up in the downtown,” said Woodside. “That’s all part of the city’s planning for creating a space where people can live, work and play.”

BEER

## Abe Erb the ‘new kid on the block’



SCOTT GLAYSHER  
STAFF WRITER

With public houses like Beertown, Lion Brewery and Brick Brewery, Waterloo has no shortage when it comes to craft beer. However, there’s a new kid on the block and his name is Abe Erb.

The casual yet classy brewing company offers a full menu, cozy seating, live music and three exclusive craft beers in addition to all your other beer favorites.

The inside is comfortably rustic with couches, comfy chairs and enough bar space to easily fit Wilfrid Laurier University’s entire varsity football team. On top of that, they have their brewing equipment hoisted above the open concept restaurant to showcase the fact that they have the freshest beer available.

Each one of their three beers is incredibly unique; the first — and freshest — is the 1857 Kolsch. This is made on site and goes straight

from the mash kettle to your pint. It’s a light golden ale, with 4.8 per cent alcohol by volume, stylized like a classic German beer. It is perhaps one of the most refreshing beers available right now and would go perfect with a shareable appetizers or tapas platter.

Up next is their fruity wheat beer, Das Spritzhaus. This hefeweizen is a 4.7 per cent ABV full-bodied beer with a fresh fruit finish. It would be best compared to Kronenberg Blanc except with a much more balanced flavour on the palate. Even though there are hints of fruit throughout, it doesn’t taste like you’re drinking juice, as the fruit flavours are subtly mixed in. This one would go down nice with any cured meat dish, mainly sausage or ham.

Finally is their American style india pale ale, Buggywhip. This is their heaviest and hoppiest beer, best with any full course meal. At 6.3 per cent ABV, you can tell at first sip that this beer doesn’t mess around. It has a copper colour that finishes clean to wash down menu items like steak and frites or wild mushroom pasta. Having this beer for either after work drinks, or while scarfing down a main course, is definitely a winner.



JESSICA DIK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

With its spacious interior, Abe Erb brews their own beers in-house. The space also feels cozy with warm seating.



FOOD

# Exploring burgers in Waterloo

Local restaurants offer a variety of choices to choose from for this classic beef-based sandwich



Over a century since its invention, the hamburger has become a centerpiece in casual dining culture. In it’s humble beginning, the hamburger was solely a facet of the army and fast food, but in recent years there has been a surge of specialty hamburger restaurants that wish to bring a gourmet spin to the classic sandwich.

Here are a few local places that’ll fill that hole in your heart and may just destroy your arteries in the process.

**Carl’s Jr.**

I had heard a lot about the American chain — apparently they served up the best burger among the fast food heavyweights down south — and I had to check it out. As I stepped through those doors, I was teleported to a world where “medium” meant no less than two litres.

Within three minutes, the lifeless, grayed puck would sit in front of me, topped with an offensive amount of bacon and sandwiched between a bronzed freshly baked bun, they called it the Mile High. Needless to say I was disappointed. I was ready to renounce my citizenship and pledge allegiance, but sadly Carl’s Jr.



Will Huang/Photo Editor

The Double Double Double at Morty’s is two 10oz beef patties on top of one another, with bacon and mushrooms.

served up an \$11 burger comparable to something you’d find at a shitty golf tournament barbecue.

**Frat Burger**

Next up was Frat Burger. Among the countless combinations and varieties they serve, one particular burger caught my eye — Zoe’s Brunchie. Topped with a fried egg, bacon, cheddar, hash brown and a slice of

grilled pineapple, this seemed like a clear winner to me. Unfortunately, while Frat Burger excels in their creativity, they blunder in their quantity. Now don’t get me wrong, it was a tasty burger, but it took me no less than five bites to finish this \$14 creation. It left me wanting more and had Frat Burger committed an ounce or two more of beef or cut the pineapple a little thicker, it could

have been at the top of this list.

**Big Tex’s Grill**

I was reluctant to go to Big Tex’s at first, but many people were insistent that I try their Bucking Bronco. I’m really glad someone spoke up. The beef patty was topped with fried jalapenos, cheddar and beef brisket — a lot of beef brisket. It took my breath away in more than one sense and for

\$10 you really can’t go wrong. “Everything is bigger at Tex’s” rang true as I looked down the submarine-brisket-burger hybrid — honestly I really can’t get over the brisket. Ironically enough, it seems as though the Waterloo-based restaurant served up a more “American-inspired” experience than the lauded Carl’s Jr. If you’re ever in the mood to knock a few years off your life, or maybe you just went through a terrible breakup, refrain from reaching for that chocolate ice cream and head on down to Big Tex’s Grill.

**Morty’s**

They call it the Double Double Double. Twin 10oz patties topped with a double serving of bacon and whole lot of cheddar — not to mention all the classic fixins, sauteed mushrooms and onions. From top to bottom this thing hit all the points. Yes, the Double was reasonably larger than all the other burgers covered, but showmanship aside, what Morty’s delivers is a no-nonsense burger eating experience. When you’re eating a burger, you’re not worrying about your table manners, napkins or utensils for that matter — eating a burger is about leisure and recreation. It truly is the ultimate comfort food. Morty’s not only delivers based on their food, but the ambience is welcoming, vibrant and when you’re facing your 20 oz monstrosity, it really feels like home. It’s a no-brainer — head down to Morty’s if you’re looking for the best.

CULTURE

# When is holiday cheer too soon?



There has been much debate for a while now over when it is considered too early or too late to start getting ready for the holiday season.

There has been a conception that the Christmas season must begin after Halloween, Remembrance Day and only when snow has blanketed our surroundings. Every other scenario is just unacceptable because it is too early.

So that begs the question: when is it too early to start getting ready for the holidays, and is it possible to start celebrating too late?

For me, once Halloween has come and gone, I begin to think it is acceptable to start humming Christmas tunes, but I don’t actively begin to prepare for the season just yet because I personally don’t feel like it is an appropriate time. When the snow finally hits the ground — creating that picturesque winter wonderland scenario — I decorate the Christmas tree, bake holiday goodies and start Christmas shopping.

It doesn’t matter to me whether the first snowfall happens at the beginning of November or at the end — that is when I acknowledge the holiday season is officially upon us.

For a number of people though, the holiday season arises either much earlier or later than my own personal preferences. Some people will wait until Remembrance Day has

“The fact of the matter is that the beginning of the holiday season is subjective for everyone.”

passed, out of respect, while some who do not enjoy the celebration of Halloween will start to prepare as early as October.

The Starbucks Christmas drinks were sold just two days after Halloween this year and I overheard from people with conversations ranging from, “Halloween just finished, why are these being sold?” To other expressing their excitement that the holiday season was officially upon them.

The fact of the matter is that the beginning of the holiday season is subjective for everybody.

There isn’t a correct date in which people must start celebrating the holidays or begin to make their plans in terms of Christmas shopping or baking.

The preparation of the holiday season is a matter of preferential taste.

If you meet someone who has been getting ready for the holiday season the second Halloween finished while you are waiting until the Santa Claus parade is aired, don’t tell them that they started celebrating too early. Wish them a “happy holidays” instead.



Joshua Awolade/Graphics Editor

FASHION

# Gym shoes back in style



Lost and forgotten fashion trends have a tendency to come back in style. Some recent examples of this include logo sweaters, white heels, wrapping flannel shirts around the waist and the macho leather jacket. All of these and more were hot for a while, fell off and are now back in a big way.

Adding to this ever-revolving door of fashion is sporty shoes worn casually. Back in the day, guys and girls would wear running shoes not only for a workout or athletic activity but for casual purposes too. Whether it was clunky Reebok cross trainers or dorky looking FUBUs, the running shoe and casual jean combo was all the rage — just look at Jerry Seinfeld’s shoe collection.

Sneakerheads from all over the world worshiped Seinfeld’s athletic shoe collection for 10 seasons straight. Everything from Nike Air trainers to some of the more exclusive Jordans’ on the market, Seinfeld would rock them all with a nice pair of faded blue jeans.

As the years rolled on, the sporty kick trend declined. People started exclusively wearing running shoes for activities like the gym or pick-up basketball. The main reason for this disconnect was the fact that runners didn’t fit the casual mold anymore.

People started to care less about shoe attributes like pressure distribution, ankle support or mid-sole responsiveness and looked towards shoes being “cooler.” Those types of shoes could only be worn if those features were needed.

As the athletic shoe went out, the more casual loafer came in. Kids in the late 90s and early 2000s wouldn’t be caught dead in something that looked remotely “sporty,” especially in jeans.

Over the past year there has been

a massive resurgence in wearing runners in a more casual setting.

Guys and girls these days wear what are meant to be running shoes in much more relaxed and non-athletic situations. Shoes like Nike Roshe Runs and Flyknits have been the hottest shoes for the past season on and off the gym floor. Even shoes as boxy as the New Balance low-cut trainers are back on the streets and soaring off the shelves.

Fashion icons like Kanye West, Olivier Rousteing and Riccardo Tisci have all tailored the creative direction of their companies towards running shoes coupled with your everyday pair of jeans.

To allocate a specific reason as to why these athletic shoes are back would be impossible. These days, trends come in and out faster than a couple of microwaveable Hot Pockets.

My best guess would be that with the more slender, form fitting outfits people are wearing, the sleek shape and feel of runners are the perfect match.



MOVEMBER



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

# Mo' sistas unite

## WILL support Movember on campus

DANICA BRETT  
STAFF WRITER

Kudos to the mustached men out there but it's time to give a shout-out to all the women who are taking on such an active role in a month all about men's health. Cue Women in Leadership Laurier.

Being a club comprised of all women at Wilfrid Laurier University, these empowering ladies aren't rocking their own moustaches, but have devoted an entire campaign around Movember and set up a donation jar on campus to raise money for men's health.

Jocelyn Au, marketing vice-president of WILL, commented on the purpose of their campaign.

"It's not just about prostate cancer, it's about men's health and mental health awareness in general. We want to reiterate this forum for people to openly talk about men's health."

According to Au, WILL is trying to move away from their stereotypical view of being a feminist group.

"We want to support the entire Laurier community and one way in

doing that is through the Movember campaign."

She continued that WILL's role in Movember is to let the men at Laurier know that it is okay to talk about their issues.

"I find that a lot of male individuals don't openly discuss their problems in terms of health and mental awareness and they may not realize that it is a problem. We realize it should be openly discussed and should be something to be improved and worked on," Au said.

With over four million moustaches being grown worldwide throughout the month of November it is clear that Movember has far reaching spread beyond that of just Laurier.

Movember is a global campaign that has so far raised an impressive \$559 million to date.

WILL is a club, like many others at Laurier, who are showing the importance of what Movember is really about. It's not a month to showcase who can grow the best moustache, or who can be the most creative at doing so. It's all about raising both money and awareness to men's mental and physical health.

FILM

# Interstellar offers analysis into space

Christopher Nolan's latest film brings forth questions of what humans have accomplished in space exploration



VICTORIA BERNDT  
STAFF WRITER

With the release of *Interstellar* and the successful landing of the Philae Satellite, built and deployed by the European Space Agency, the world has once again received reminders of humanity's achievements and the excitement of the unknown is once again present in our everyday lives. This is a rare and opportune time to distinguish the reality and fiction of space exploration that are presented to us this month.

While watching *Interstellar* I was overwhelmed by the scope of the film. Not only did it take place in another galaxy, but it also used wormholes and black holes, larger than life *Star Trek*-esque planets and on top of that, robots.

It seemed to put every possible sci-fi plot point into its narrative, which in turn provided many good resources for a comparison to Philae. *Interstellar* did not humble me like staring into space usually does. Rather, it made me wonder at what must be the incredibly complicated thought process of director Christopher Nolan.

In *Interstellar*, the Apollo space missions are said to be a lie the government made up to bring Russia to bankruptcy in the "space race." This is interesting to keep in mind with Philae. For every major historical event there are conspiracy theories and it is no wonder that *Interstellar* took this into account when touching on past space exploration. Our protagonist Cooper (Matthew McConaughey) is a retired engineer whose old school perception of the world is how the audience is able to interact with the futuristic Earth and the space exploration that follows throughout the film. Unlike the audience, the characters of *Interstellar* do not rely on or believe the success of the Apollo missions to back them up in the time of Earth's crisis.

There is one pleasant similarity between *Interstellar* and Philae's landing: humanity. Throughout the entirety of *Interstellar*, the audience is told the human race is capable of great things and can solve any problem. Philae's team are extremely proud of their accomplishments, though they are experiencing difficulty with the satellite's battery life. Cell phones nowadays are more powerful than the computers used to get man to the Moon for the first time, so even that piece of information just reassures the world of our potential in space exploration.

With so much to offer, *Interstellar*

"There is one pleasant similarity between *Interstellar* and Philae's landing: humanity."

doesn't do many of its plot points justice, making them so finite that loopholes can be discovered after only one viewing. Woven into the film you can see influences from other space narratives like *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Apollo 13*, *Star Wars*, *Star Trek* and *Gravity*. All of these combine into a two and a half hour epic that ensures a blown mind and an appreciation for the Earth we live on.

Now that Philae is safe and sound hibernating on its comet, it's time to look back on the history of space exploration and marvel at how far we've come. What will come next? Perhaps humans will be able to venture into wormholes in the future as they did in this film, no matter how unrealistic it seems right now. But despite its borderline over-the-top storytelling, *Interstellar* couldn't have hit theatres at a better time.

MUSIC

# Sounds of America



BRYAN STEPHENS  
ARTS & LIFE EDITOR

"It all started with the idea of recording in different studios around the country, doing something to make it new."

These are the words of Dave Grohl that hung over the teaser trailer for the HBO documentary series *Foo Fighters: Sonic Highways*. The documentary series and accompanying album chronicles the journey that Grohl and the Foo Fighters took around the United States last year.

The project followed the band as they traversed across eight different states, recording a song in each major city that reflects their rich and vibrant musical history. Each city also brought along with it a number of musical guests such as Joe Walsh, Dolly Parton and Zac Brown, among others. Each contributing artist was meant to reflect the city they have recorded in.

Documenting their journey across America, the accompanying album and documentary series set out to show how music can be ingrained into the physical location it is recorded in. Borrowing from the mind of Pauline Oliveros and his idea of sonic awareness — the ability for music to consciously focus attention upon environmental and musical sound — *Sonic Highways* acts as a mediator for developing an appreciation for the environment music is created in and understanding the



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

The album artwork for *Sonic Highways* shows the eight cities recorded in.

complex nature of how a physical location can determine the composition of sound.

Tapping into the atmosphere of the recording process offers a dynamic approach to how different influences can find their way into an artists mind writing music. You don't have to look much further than the individuality of blues music across the American landscape, which saw different cities express different incarnations of what the blues meant to them.

The sounds crafted from a French horn in Louisiana to the electric guitar in Chicago are not different simply because they are divergent instruments — the geographical perspective of both those cities has produced influences exclusive to their respective corners of the country.


What this venture brings forth is the important value a space can hold for people. The history that ties in with the space for recording music holds sentimental merit that bring meaning for many.

Grohl said in the teaser trailer, "This is a music map of America," which is something many Americans would probably agree with.

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# Dear Life

Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life's little frustrations in a completely public forum.

All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to [dearlife@thecord.ca](mailto:dearlife@thecord.ca) no later than Monday at noon each week.

**Dear men with buns,**  
Computer says no.  
Sincerely,  
Scissors

**Dear Life,**  
The Terrace managers need to stop disregarding employee safety.  
Sincerely,  
“Zero Tolerance Policy” is bullshit, harassment is not okay

**Dear Life,**  
Where the fuck were you last week.  
Don't do that to me.  
Sincerely,  
Scared Hawk

**Dear Wilfs,**  
When I say no FUCKING tomatoes in my seagram, I mean no FUCKING tomatoes in my seagram.  
Sincerely,  
You Trying To Kill Me?

**Dear Life,**  
Laurier, get parking. Honestly. There are no passes left, parking for the day is \$7 and by-laws prevent parking for over 3 hours at a time. Most of us have consecutive classes that sometimes last for 8 hours!! I would take a bus but I live half an hour out of the city.  
Sincerely,  
Enough parking tickets already

**Dear Life,**  
I enjoyed the article regarding

helplines for people that are feeling stressed. I was wondering why, however, Peer Help Line was hardly mentioned? While the other services, like Good2Talk, are great, Peer Help Line is a growing presence on campus and has many great services. For example, Student Connect opens the Dining Hall for studying, board games and free hot chocolate every Tuesday and Wednesday night! This is awesome, and it is close to home! Sincerely,  
I am calling PHL!

**Dear life.**  
HOW COME YOU STILL WON'T LET ME GROW A MOUSTACHE I AM 20 COME ON NOW PLEASE I AM PUSHING AS HARD AS I CAN AND NOTHING WILL SPROUT  
Sincerely,  
Disqualified from Movember 4ever

**Dear Life,**  
Did you guys know it was snowing today? I better Instagram a picture of me with my hood up looking sad just in case people don't know yet.  
Sincerely,  
Original

**Dear Life,**  
I rarely go on campus, but when I do all I see are people shutting doors in people's faces, taking up entire hallways without letting people walk by and just generally disregarding other people. You say it's “great to be a Laurier Golden Hawk” but don't actually give a shit about anyone other than yourself. Get some fucking manners and maybe it actually will be.  
Sincerely,  
Where are all the polite people at?

**Dear Life,**  
SAAANTAAAAA!  
Sincerely,  
I know him!

# Sudoku

5					7	8		
	8		3	2				
						1	9	3
9			4	7				
		8	9		1	7		
				3	5			4
8	9	7						
				5	8		6	
		3	2					7



By: L. A. Bonté



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# ‘LIKE’ THE CORD ON FACEBOOK





# Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21				22	23					
			24				25		26					
27	28	29					30	31				32	33	34
35						36					37			
38				39	40					41		42		
43			44		45					46	47			
48				49					50					
			51				52	53						
54	55	56				57		58				59	60	61
62						63	64				65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

ACROSS

1- Reindeer herder  
5- Pelt  
9- Packs tightly  
14- Chemical used on trees  
15- Chianti, e.g.  
16- Like Cheerios  
17- Picasso contemporary  
18- Actress Sommer  
19- Narrow groove  
20- Weightlifting bar  
22- Enduring  
24- Bohemian  
26- Service charge  
27- Missouri feeder  
30- Recondite  
35- Embankment  
36- Queue after Q  
37- Second start?  
38- Despot Amin  
39- Incentives  
42- Recipe abbr.  
43- Richard of “A Summer Place”  
45- Highway  
46- Berlin’s “Blue \_\_\_\_”  
48- Spanish Miss  
50- Indicate  
51- Floor covering where the cat sat!  
52- Tierney of “ER”  
54- Dwells  
58- Keep from occurring  
62- Teheran native  
63- Give the eye  
65- Got it  
66- Old French expression meaning “goodbye”  
67- Name of 12 popes  
68- Freelancer’s encl.  
69- Shops want to achieve high ones!  
70- Back talk  
71- Humble homes

DOWN

1- Gyro meat  
2- Inter \_\_\_\_  
3- Henry VIII’s sixth  
4- Official proof of a will  
5- Slender  
6- Murders  
7- Pen filler  
8- Christmas  
9- Coddle  
10- Heavy napped woolen fabric; 11- Longfellow’s bell town  
12- Chow \_\_\_\_  
13- Glitch  
21- Some Art Deco works  
23- In conflict with, with “of”  
25- Polite agreement  
27- Layers  
28- Flat shelf  
29- Birdlike  
31- Collar fastener  
32- Rate  
33- Atlas feature  
34- Thicket  
36- Public disturbance  
40- Hackneyed  
41- Grenoble’s river  
44- Candidate  
47- Dishonest  
49- Half the diameter  
50- Coercion  
53- Great grade  
54- Narrow inlets  
55- Mother of the Valkyries  
56- Travel on water  
57- Soaks (up)  
59- Biblical twin  
60- Treehouse used by birds  
61- Driving aids  
64- Actress Scala

NOV. 12 SOLUTION

D	E	L	E	T	E	D		R	A	T	A	B	L	E
E	P	I	T	O	M	E		E	L	A	T	I	O	N
W	I	T	H	O	U	T		P	A	R	O	T	I	D
A	L	O	O	N		R	E	A	R	S		U	T	O
T	A	T	S		K	I	L	I	M		A	M	E	R
E	T	E		E	N	T	E	R		I	T	E	R	S
R	E	S		D	U	U	M		O	D	E	N	S	E
			S	E	T	S		A	D	E	S			
P	A	V	A	N	E		C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E
E	L	I	A	S		P	O	S	T	S		N	O	M
L	A	N	K		T	A	M	E	S		L	I	S	P
A	B	E		B	R	I	A	N		V	O	T	E	R
G	A	G	A	R	I	N		A	C	O	N	I	T	E
M	A	G	I	N	E			T	A	L	E	N	T	S
C	A	R	O	T	I	D		E	M	E	R	G	E	S

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The university ought to fix its IA and TA training process

For students and professors, having teaching and instructional assistants for classes can be very relieving and beneficial.

Ideally, teaching assistants serve to complement students’ learning experience, while easing professors’ teaching processes.

When they aren’t helping out with marking essays or other projects, they are leading tutorials or hosting office hours, during which students can have their questions or concerns addressed.

In this process, they come into contact with several students of a diverse array of backgrounds, cultures and conditions.

They are oftentimes able to directly impact their students’ final grades and shape their holistic satisfaction with the course.

Hence, on the student employment scale, being a teaching assistant is an important position that comes with a lot of power and responsibility.

As such, it requires people who are well-spirited, well-versed in the subject and most of all, well-trained to deal with both the predictable and unpredictable contingencies that accompany the position — or so it would seem.

In some departments at Wilfrid Laurier University, IAs and TAs go through little to no training for their

positions, and with the exception of a few experienced individuals, they are ill-prepared to carry out their jobs effectively.

We believe the responsibility of preparing IAs and TAs rests almost entirely on the respective departments.

In their failure to assume this responsibility, they put into question the potency of the course being taught and they impinge on both the teaching experience of the teaching assistant and the learning experience of the student.

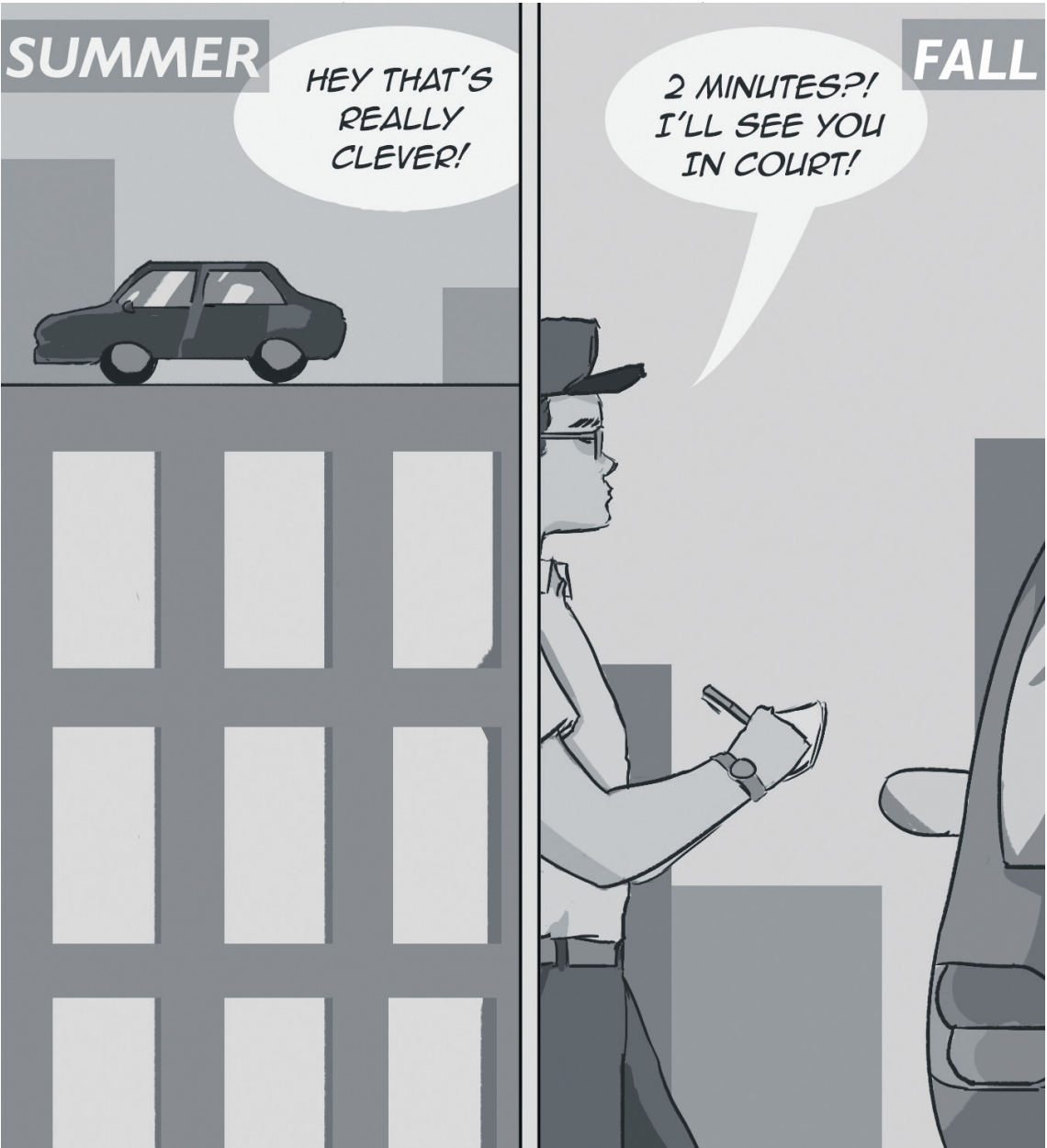
In fact, some teaching assistants are so ill-prepared for the job that they are unaware of the fact that they have to hold office hours and lead tutorial sessions.

Moreover, since teaching assistants are not required to go through any diversity or sensitivity training, it won’t be surprising to find many are unable to properly deal with a student body as diverse and elaborate as ours.

The university desperately needs to salvage its teaching assistant program.

They need to re-think the hiring process for these teaching assistants.

We suggest they stop being so lazy and spend some more time developing a consistent and effective system for weeding out and training the best possible candidates for the position.



JOSHUA AWOLADE/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Abandoning attitudes that make us ignore mistakes of the past

As with Australia and the United States, Canada's relationship with its indigenous people is one that is fraught with controversy and ignoble actions.

This relationship began with the descent of Europeans in the 18th century into the area of land now called Canada and has been renewed over the years through expectations of assimilation, unethical residential schools, breaches of land treaties and so on. An account of Canada’s history that fails to detail its treatment of indigenous peoples is flawed and fraudulent.

One would think this dynamic history would be taught to students in all educational levels, and despite the difficulty of recounting many of the ways in which indigenous peoples were treated, more Canadians would be open to learning about the past in order to understand the current social landscape within the country.

Today, however, many students are unaware of the history of residential schools and some of those who are aware are either unsympathetic or equally ignorant of the magnitude of the program. As a result of this ignorance, many of the attitudes that led to the subjugation of indigenous peoples are being replicated today.

Indigenous people are ostracized, if not explicitly then implicitly. They are ridiculed for insubstantial reasons and it is wrongly believed they are undeserving of the government’s efforts at reparations.

This is unacceptable and puts to question the virtue and integrity of the nation and its polity.

Starting with institutions such as ours, students need to understand the history of the mistreatment of indigenous people and one way to do this is to abandon those attitudes that lead us to ignore the mistakes of the past.

*These unsigned editorials are based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord’s editorial board, including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord’s volunteers, staff or WLUSP.*

Koalas and a global cabal



MOYOSORE AREWA  
OPINION EDITOR

The 2014 G-20 summit took place this past weekend in Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, Australia.

Since its formation in 1999, the summit has been comprised of 19 countries — Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom and United States — and the European Union.

It was conceived of as an avenue for the “major powers” of the world to come together, mostly behind closed doors, to discuss issues concerning the global economy.

This mission is an understandable one: the global economic system is an intricate and erratic one that is affected by a myriad of factors, ranging from differences in cultural practices to the unsurprising stubbornness and dogma of certain political factions.

Hence, there should be no reservations about the importance of having a global summit or coalition that will try valiantly to ease these tensions and seek solutions to problems in the global economic system.

The problem however, is that the G-20 doesn’t quite do that.

Its exclusivity makes it glaringly illegitimate, unnecessary and counter-productive; it’s reminiscent of 19th and early 20th century global politics, when the so-called global powers of the world convened on

several occasions behind closed doors to make decisions that today continue to negatively affect millions of people.

Moreover, the 20 permanent members of the summit are not quite representative of today’s global political and economic landscape.

Of the 20, South Africa is the only African country and it certainly does not represent the interests of the entire continent.

In Europe, Russia and Turkey are the only non-EU countries that make the cut. Curiously excluded are the Scandinavian countries, especially Norway, which has for the last five decades developed an image as a global conciliator and generous donor. In the Middle East, Saudi Arabia alone makes the cut.

This tradition of underrepresentation is one that has persisted for too long, but more importantly, it is one that has the ability to hurt positive efforts at opening up the international system in a quest to reduce the socioeconomic inequality gap.

The summit creates for itself an exclusive global cabal and comes off more as a group of smug bullies than as a group aiming to bring about any positive change.

When approached with this criticism, members of the summit often respond boastfully, saying mostly that it’s impossible to please everybody.

In saying this they miss the point entirely and they do very little to assuage sceptics’ reservations. Just as it is impossible to please everybody, it should be detestable to concede to pleasing only a select few.

Furthermore, even if it was possible to please everybody, there are several lingering questions about the framework of the group and its abil-

“ If the G-20 has a clear governance body, it is still unclear what its structure or functions are. ”

ity to effectively bring about change.

If the G-20 has a clear governance body, it is still unclear what its structure or functions are. This undoubtedly brings up questions of transparency and accountability.

Since these meetings are held behind closed doors and spokespeople remain elusive as usual, it is unclear what major decisions are made — if any are made at all — and who makes such decisions.

For a summit as official as the G-20, the organizational framework is highly informal.

It seems the whole affair ends up being yet another global avenue for countries to continue diplomatic ostentations, often at the expense of achieving tangible results.

For example, this year’s summit in Brisbane was dominated by photos of various world leaders getting very cuddly with koalas, and Canada’s Prime Minister issuing empty threats to Russia’s President Vladimir Putin.

In the background however, while those heads of state get busy cuddling koalas in the comfort of their cabal, we are once again left unsure of the tangible occurrences at the summit, and more importantly, we are once again left to put its necessity into doubt.

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# Lessons learned from summer camp



I’ve spent every summer since I was nine at my second home: overnight camp.

Now, as a canoe trip counsellor, I take campers out of campgrounds and lead trips into the mystical world of Algonquin Park, and by some inconceivable miracle I get paid to do it.

To me, there’s nothing more uplifting than watching a camper complete their first portage or paddle hard for the final stretch of an enormous lake.

There’s also nothing more inspirational than sitting around a fire in the soothing peace of nature, completely separated from the lightning-speed world of civilization, while stuffing our faces with countless s’mores.

On each of these trips, it’s protocol for campers to hand in their watches. The trippers need to know what time it is, but the kids never do.

Instead, they can surrender to the timeless beauty of their surroundings, with the only notification of moments passing being the golden sun gliding forward overhead.

Canoe trips aside, I’ve met some of my best friends back at camp. Many, who I see as my brothers and sisters, have moved on throughout the years from the need to build up their resumes or gain work experience that can help ease the transition into the



real world of adulthood.

With every summer that passes, I wonder how many more times I’ll be able to freely dive off the dock into the lake with my best friends or jump up on tables with a banana in each hand, pretending to be a monkey for a bunch of ten-year-olds.

How many summers do I have left until I’m expected to wear a business suit, instead of walking around shirtless covered in face paint?

To some of you this may seem like a bunch of childish endeavors, but for those of you who have experienced taking care of children and, in a sense, becoming one of them, you’ll understand exactly what I’m talking about.

It’s more than a way of re-entering the glory days of your youth, it’s a way of unleashing the freedom of your inevitable adulthood. In those moments of freedom, worries of the

future don’t exist.

I’m not saying we should all give up our summer jobs to go work at an overnight camp; there are countless student opportunities available with outstanding financial benefits and life-changing experiences.

I’m saying we should let our passions guide our way and let credentials and resumes fall afterwards.

The truth, is I have no clue how many more summers I’ve got of go-

“ I know that time is ticking, but sometimes, just like with canoe trips, it’s better to leave your watch at home. ”

ing back to camp.

Whether it’s tuition, rent, textbooks, meal plans or affording the next round at the bar, money is a constant consideration for students and summer camp doesn’t do much to help pay the bills. Regardless, sometimes it’s better to hang on by a thread then to let go altogether.

Much like with school, deadlines and due dates will conquer our schedules in future careers, suffocating us by providing little room to breathe.

It’s important to take on each task one step at a time, always aware and appreciative for the now instead of the later. I know time is ticking, but sometimes, just like with canoe trips, it’s better to leave your watch at home.

Despite the machine gun bullets of expectations shooting you in every inch of flesh, it’s important to take cover and do what you’re passionate about.

Jobs will come and go, but doing what you love is the only job worth pursuing. In the end, passion will be the engine that drives you wherever it is you want to go.

## Analyzing class absenteeism

*Can there be any benefits to skipping university lectures?*



The concept behind the educational process is spending money now to hopefully gain substantially more in the future — it’s an investment.

We invest in our human capital over a period of time to make us better equipped for the real world.

From an educational perspective, the returns to this investment are good grades, which eventually allow us graduate with more rewarding career prospects.

Learning is technically the purpose of receiving an education, but good grades are the most accurate reflection of successful knowledge accumulation.

Resources, in the form of lectures and textbooks, are provided to aid with our learning. We are then tested on information taught to us using these resources. This is the foundation of meritocracy by which society largely abides — each individual striving to attain the best possible grades as proof of their advanced human capital.

If the aim is to essentially receive

“ However if we view the whole process as an investment, then the logic is slightly altered. ”

good grades on these testing methods, then the importance of attending lectures can be questioned.

“Why should I go to class?” This usually seems like an illogical question when simply taken at face value.

You should obviously attend lectures because you paid for them and it is more or less an expectation when you attend any educational institution.

However if we view the whole process as an investment, then the logic is slightly altered. If a student doesn’t attend lectures but still receives good grades on the course, then has their money really been wasted?

On the flip side, if a student attends all lectures but performs terribly on the course, is attendance of any real value? The question of whether or not to attend lectures ultimately boils down to the ability to



attain desired grades with little to no attendance.

Is this possible? Yes — some students can probably attest to receiving good grades with an overall low attendance record in the course. Nonetheless, it may not always be the most effective and efficient approach to adopt.

There are several factors that contribute to lecture absenteeism. A study published on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology faculty newsletter discovered the most important factor students use to decide on lecture attendance is clarity and quality of lectures.

Some other reasons cited were deadlines for other academic work, lecturer’s ability to engage and entertain and availability of lecture material from printed sources.

At their core, many of these factors are in accordance with a perceived sense of time wastage.

In the sense that the perceived wastage catalyzes their reasons to miss lectures.

This isn’t worrisome in itself — time is a valuable resource that should be utilized to the best of our ability.

Be that as it may, are we truly objective enough to determine this for ourselves, especially when we have a conflicting interest? Wastage would only occur if the lecture time span were not used productively.

In other words, the opportunity cost of attending a lecture would have to be high to justify a lecture absence. This is rarely ever the case with absenteeism. Human beings have a tendency to self-justify ac-

tions and this permeates through the decision-making process.

The costs of attending a lecture are often overstated and the various benefits are overlooked.

Benefits that extend beyond the obvious, such as the opportunity to meet people — that could even be an added educational resource — and ensuring students are on their toes in regards to the course obligations.

Sight has been proven to be a very vital part of memory retention.

Essentially, we could retain information by simply staring at the projector in a class or taking down notes. Lectures also provide preparation for the real world; the ability to concentrate for long periods of time, sit through the most mundane presentations and an overall sense of discipline in the workplace.



HOCKEY

Homestand split by men’s hockey

DREW YATES  
STAFF WRITER

The Wilfrid Laurier University men’s hockey team is continuing their battle this season despite a handful of injuries.

On Nov. 15 the Hawks saw three key offensive contributors step up as Laurier showered the Concordia Stingers with a flurry of first period goals, taking the game in a convincing 6-3 manner.

Third-year forwards Derek Schoenmakers, fifth-year Tyler Stothers and third-year Ryan Lopes each scored two goals to spread out the scoring.

First-year goaltender Harrison Pharoah came in after second-year Vinny Merante re-injured himself early in the second period.

Pharoah stood tall, turning away 24 shots in relief of Merante for two periods.

The Stingers tried to stage a third period comeback but fell short as Laurier was able to hang on to the lead.

“We haven’t been too worried about the offence, we actually had contributors from all third and fourth lines here. We just have got to be able to take care of the puck in our own end,” Stothers said. “Scoring goals hasn’t been an issue, it’s been keeping them out.”

Head coach Greg Puhalski commented on the first year goaltender’s play in relief on Saturday evening in Waterloo.

“Harrison came in, I thought in the second period he really played well. Had a bit of a tough third period for us but we got to play a little better defensively in front of him and make sure we don’t give up any shots, period.”



JESSICA DIK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After a win over Concordia and a loss to UQTR, men’s hockey sits at 4-7-0 as they head east to face off against Carleton and RMC this coming weekend.

“Vinny wanted to be in the pipes — he didn’t want to leave,” Stothers said.

“He’s such a battler, but he’s been battling an injury now for a while and Harrison has been able to come in and he’s been fantastic. He’s giving us a chance to win and that’s all you can ask. It’s not an easy position in being asked to do what he’s asked to do, so it’s been nice.”

Sunday was a different story, as Laurier was held off the scoreboard for the first time all season facing off against the fifth-ranked Universit   du Qu  bec a Trois-Rivi  res Pa-

tr  tes, dropping the game 0-7 after a difficult third period. The loss was largely due to some penalty trouble as it dug a hole the Hawks could not escape.

Laurier’s special teams was an issue on Sunday, as the Patriotes’ power play went 4-6 and was a major factor in the lopsided loss.

The Hawks are a dismal 61 per cent on the penalty kill this season and rank in the number 12 spot in power play efficiency, with only four teams beneath them in both the OUA West and East divisions.

The Patriotes are the fifth-ranked

team in the country and first in the Ontario University Athletics East division at 10-1-1.

However Laurier has mostly been able to rely on Pharoah, who was called up from the Laurier intramural league after both goaltenders ran into some injury trouble.

Over the weekend, Pharoah faced a total of 80 shots, with 53 of those shots coming from a very difficult Patriotes squad.

Next Friday, the Hawks go on the road as they face off against the Carleton Ravens. Puck drops at 7 p.m. in Ottawa.

“Scoring goals has not been an issue, it’s been keeping them out.”

-Tyler Stothers, men’s hockey captain

FOOTBALL

Coverage Blackout

Most OUA sports have been dropped by sports networks



SHELBY BLACKLEY  
CAMPUS NEWS EDIOR

In August, Sportsnet made the executive decision to axe the Ontario University Athletics men’s football regular season from its television programming.

No one was really surprised — aside from Homecoming, fan base at the games was subpar at best. However it came as a huge blow to the OUA and Canadian Interuniversity Sport conferences alike that are still struggling to get the media attention they deserve.

Being the dedicated, football-crazed fan I am, when Saturday’s OUA Yates Cup championship game began at 1 p.m. sharp of course I had OUA.tv connected to my television and had my bacon already cooked.

OUA.tv has been a mediocre alternative to the lack of national media attention throughout the regular season, but it did not do justice to one of the most led-up to conference championships.

The Yates Cup — the oldest

“It was as stressful as it was enjoyable and all I yearned for was the ability to watch Sportsnet’s coverage on my television.”

football trophy in North America — deserved that spot on Sportsnet Saturday afternoon.

But alas, I was forced to yell at a blank blue screen that threatened the broadcast and reset my feed enough times so the game was relatively close to the tweets coming to my phone. It was as stressful as it was enjoyable, and all I yearned for was the ability to watch Sportsnet’s coverage on my television.

Despite the lackluster performance of both McMaster and Guelph that made the game mediocre and rather ugly, there’s something about OUA football that makes people stick around and continue to follow these student athletes that are given minimal \$4,000 scholarships to essentially do two full-time jobs.

These athletes pour their hearts into the opportunity to just be able to lift the coveted Vanier Cup.

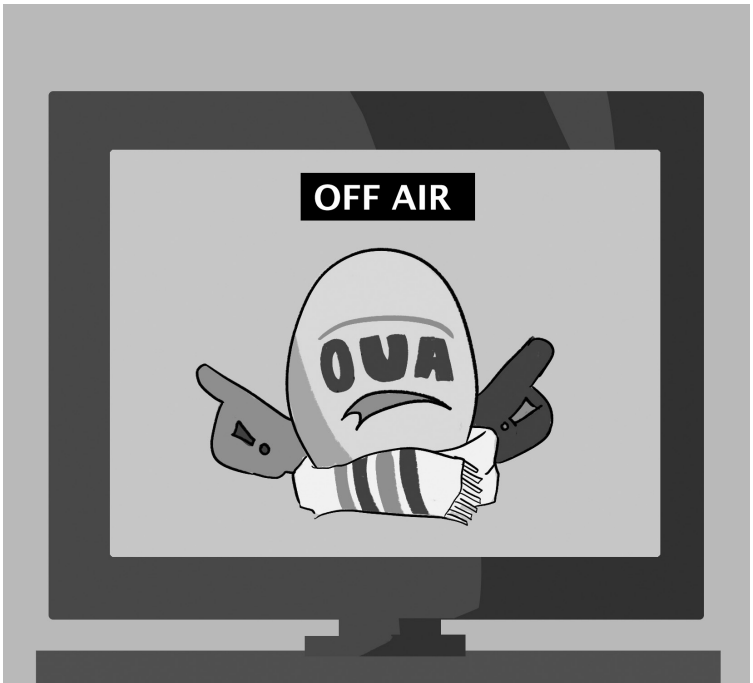
Unfortunately, I understand Sportsnet’s positioning when it comes to numbers and dollars — with a giant NHL contract now under their wing, who needs amateur university football for a relatively small demographic?

The woes of Canadian university sport continue with its lack of national coverage.

Sure, the Mitchell Bowl and the Uteck Bowl — essentially the semifinals for CIS football — and the championship final, the Vanier Cup, will be broadcasted on Sportsnet over the next two weekends. But that’s two weeks out of a 13-week season.

Marauders fifth-year quarterback Marshall Ferguson, who has aspirations to be a broadcaster, reached out to OUA executive director Brian Crawford when Sportsnet originally dropped the OUA’s broadcasts in August.

According to Crawford, “The OUA actually committed significant financial resources in supporting production costs for the SportsnetU and University Rush broadcasts ... the primary benefits to OUA and our members came from the brand-



JOSHUA AWOLADE/GRAPHICS EDITOR

ing and visibility opportunities that come with being on national television.”

OUA put money into its ability to somehow grow its visibility, yet national television continues to play with its heartstrings by leading the conference on.

TSN covered the 2011 Vanier Cup between the Laval Rouge et Or and McMaster — forever known as the “best game ever” — with over 660,000 viewers tuning in. TSN cashed in big, and Sportsnet hoped to do the same.

Unfortunately, the giant blowouts that became the OUA over the past few years are the primary reasons for the league’s lack of exposure to the

public.

So, how is Canadian university football supposed to grow its dedicated demographic when it’s stripped to the bare bones of national coverage? Why must we continue to compare the CIS to the NCAA, but not give them the same opportunity?

Unfortunately, as long as several issues such as the lack of parity, minimal funding for exposure and the professional sports being more important than amateur sport continue, we’ll be stuck watching OUA.tv and will be fighting with their blank blue screens while Twitter feeds us updates on who threw the most recent pick six.



BASKETBALL

# Morrison does the heavy lifting

*Second-year point guard Nicole Morrison is an avid weightlifter off the court*

**WILL PROWSE**  
STAFF WRITER

Nicole Morrison is no stranger to heavy lifting.

The second-year Wilfrid Laurier University guard has shouldered much of the workload caused by injuries on the women's basketball team.

As a high school powerlifter, Morrison won two provincial championships and set a record in the 74-kilo weight class.

She picked up the sport at the prompting of a coach, who felt the gains made through a rigorous weight-training schedule would transfer over to her on-court performance.

"He said it was a good transition from sport-to-sport, because being physically strong and athletic is important [in basketball].

I have the body build for it — I'm short, stocky, muscular," said Morrison.

"After the season, it really helped me gain strength for in-season. In-season, I'd work more on my agility and my cardio."

The experience as a dual-sport athlete is something she feels has bettered her as a basketball player.

"It definitely helped when I came in here transitioning from high school to university," she said.

"The girls are stronger, they're more athletic — it's just a whole different level. So I found that it really helped me transition from playing against girls who have never picked up a weight in their life to girls who have been training for four or five years at a high intensity sport."

Morrison's career as a Golden Hawk is just over one year old, but she has already assumed a vital role on the roster as a physical, high-energy force who can fill holes at three different offensive positions.



ANDREAS PATSIAOUIROS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Nicole Morrison is the current starting point guard of women's basketball.

The women's basketball team is out to a brisk 3-1 start to the season. While many have performed roles crucial to this early success, Morrison's contributions have helped in the formation of a well-balanced offence that distributes the ball and utilizes all members.

"I always put pressure on myself to be the one to help my teammates score," she said.

"I take pride in being able to get the ball down the floor fast and have Whitney [Ellenor] score an open layup rather than having to take it

myself."

Morrison's statistical improvements from her freshman year have coincided with a sharp increase in minutes. Averaging 30 minutes in her sophomore year, her points per game has doubled and her assists and rebound rates climbed as well.

While the sheer increase in scoring changes have resulted in the higher rate stats, Morrison credits a more self-assured style of play as a factor in her growth.

"I think first year, I tried to play it safe, not trying to do too much and

"The girls are stronger, they're more athletic – it's just a whole different level."

-Nicole Morrison, point guard

trying to avoid as many mistakes as I could," she said. "This year, I feel like I have more confidence ... I will take that shot, I will drive to the basket because I know that I can. I have the confidence in myself to do it and I know that's what my coach wants me to do."

Injuries have been a large obstacle to overcome so far for Laurier.

This has often left the team shorthanded and on one occasion, brought the tally of available players down to six.

Under these circumstances, diminished performance from the squad would be understandable.

But Morrison is confident her group will be able to heal up and build on their run of early success, so long as they keep playing team-oriented basketball.

"When everyone is more concerned about the team doing well and the team scoring, it doesn't really matter who's scoring and we all seem to be double digits. The games that I remember the most, the games where we've done so well, are because the whole team is scoring, not just one or two people."

Fresh off a blowout win versus York and a tight, hard-fought 56-53 win at Queen's, the Golden Hawks will return home next weekend to face off against Carleton and Ottawa, whose Ontario University Athletics' records are 2-2 and 3-1, respectively.

**GOLDEN HAWK**  
**UPDATE**  
Week of November 17-23

RECENT SCORES

11.14.14  
W Basketball 88 - York 44  
M Basketball 77 - York 68

11.15.14  
W Hockey 0 - Guelph 4  
M Hockey 6 - Concordia 3  
W Basketball 56 - Queen's 53  
M Basketball 87 - Queen's 70

11.16.14  
W Hockey 8 - Brock 4  
M Hockey 0 - UQTR 7

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

11.21.14  
W Basketball vs Carleton  
Athletic Complex Gym, 6:00pm  
M Basketball vs Carleton  
Athletic Complex Gym, 8:00pm

11.22.14  
W Basketball vs Ottawa  
Athletic Complex Gym, 6:00pm  
W Hockey vs Queen's  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm  
M Basketball vs Ottawa  
Athletic Complex Gym, 8:00pm

11.26.14  
W Hockey vs UOIT  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

11.26.14  
M Hockey vs Waterloo  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 11:00am

11.29.14  
W Hockey vs Waterloo  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

11.30.14  
W Hockey vs Toronto  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

12.02.14  
M Hockey vs Western  
Waterloo Rec Complex, 7:30pm

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FOOTBALL

# All-stars named

*Six men's football players selected*

**JOSH PETERS**  
SPORTS EDITOR

After a year that was considered a significant building block for the program, Ontario University Athletics selected six all-stars and two all-rookies from the Wilfrid Laurier University men's football team.

The all-stars were highlighted by four players in their draft year: defensive end Ese Mrabure-Ajufo, kicker Ronnie Pfeffer, defensive back Chris Ackie and running back Dillon Campbell. They were rounded out by fifth-year offensive guard Tommy Griffiths and third-year safety Benjamin Millar. This is the last university award Griffiths will receive before heading to the Toronto Argonauts.

Pfeffer, Campbell, Griffiths and Ackie were all selected as first team OUA all-stars, while Millar and Mrabure-Ajufo were second team.

"To have these six guys achieve these honours, it says a lot," said head coach Michael Faulds. "All of them were outstanding leaders for us... They really helped all the other guys on the team."

Ackie, who is a top draft prospect, explained that the confidence of getting selected as an all-star is helpful in the pursuit of playing professionally.

"It's an honour to be selected as an all-star and get ready for a combine... You're always focused on the

next step in life. The next step is now, 'Hey, we are trying to make it to the CFL,' " he said.

Pfeffer enters his draft year after average of 42.2 yards per punt which was good for number one in the province.

Mrabure-Ajufo is the only Golden Hawk in his draft year who was named a second team all-star. According to Faulds, he was highly considered for first team — something that is very difficult in his position.

"There were two other outstanding defensive ends in the league this year, and Ese was head to head with them," he said.

Laurier's two all-rookies were defensive half back Godfrey Onyeka and cornerback Carson Ouellette.

"It's really good to see those freshmen that were able to dress this year and have a meaningful impact... they are going to lead their recruiting class," he said.

Ackie was dubbed the ninth-best prospect in the country before the year started and thinks he thinks the season proved he belongs there.

"I feel like I had my best year at Laurier. It's not just about being athletic, you have to be a smart player as well. I've spent more time, as I've become more mature, watching film," he said. "It has really helped me become a better player and I feel like I will be able to impress a lot of CFL scouts at the combine."

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FOOTBALL

# OUA MVP honours for Campbell

JOSH PETERS  
SPORTS EDITOR

Even as football season fades into the distance, star running back Dillon Campbell continues to collect accolades.

This past Thursday the Wilfrid Laurier University running back was named Ontario University Athletics MVP, as he was dubbed the most essential player to his team this past season. It does not come as an enormous shock, given that he accounted for 46 per cent of Laurier's total offence this year and was a cornerstone of their entire offensive playbook.

Last year he racked up 867 rushing yards, good for first in the OUA. It was a feat that brought him only a second team OUA all-star selection, which was something that fueled him to bring even more to the table this year.

"Doing so well last year and being given second team OUA, I thought I deserved a little better than that. I just used it as the motivation I needed to work that much harder," he said.

This season, he maintained his position at the top of that list, but this time with a staggering 1458 yards. The next best rusher was over 450 yards from his total.

According to head coach Michael Faulds, Campbell's success was even more impressive because other teams were looking for him to get touches.



Dillon Campbell took home OUA MVP honours in Hamilton this past week after a dominant season for the Hawks. COURTESY OF MICHAEL P. HALL

"Defensive coordinators knew we were giving number 34 the ball and yet they struggled to slow him down or stop him. He had an outstanding year the year before and he just continued to get better," he said.

Campbell became only the second Golden Hawk in 20 years to win the MVP award. Bill Kubas, who helped the Hawks claim their first national title at the Vanier Cup in 1991, won in 1994.

"It's just an honour to be mentioned in the same sentence and seeing myself on the same award as some of the great players in the past," Campbell said.

The achievement cements Campbell, who is entering his draft year, as the top player in the province. However there is one more prize the fourth-year kinesiology major has in his sights: the Hec Crighton Award. This is handed to the single most

valuable player in the country. Nominees are selected from the OUA, Atlantic University Sport, the Canada West Conference and the Quebec Student Sport Network (RSEQ).

Campbell's competition includes third-year receiver Brian Jones of the Acadia University Axemen, fourth-year quarterback Andrew Buckley of the University of Calgary Dinos and first-year quarterback Hugo Richard of the Laval University Rouge et Or.

Each of these players have had outstanding accomplishments this past season. Jones set a single season record with 57 catches in eight games and led the AUS with 639 receiving yards.

Buckley generally only played three quarters, as his team dominated the competition and still racked up 2175 passing yards.

Probably the most intriguing selection is Richard, who is only the second freshman to be nominated for the award since its inception in 1967. He lead the country in passing yards (2576), touchdown passes (22) and TD-interception ratio (22-4). He also set the RSEQ record for most touchdown passes in a game with seven.

Faulds is drawn to the possibility that Campbell could take home the honours despite the stiff competition.

"I really like his chances. Being a fourth-year player, putting up the numbers he did, I think he's got a great opportunity to next Thursday to be announced the Hec Crighton winner," he said.

After the awards are settled, Campbell will turn his attention to the draft combine, as he looks to make the jump into the next stage of his football career — the Canadian Football League.

"It's definitely something I am excited to do, I've always wanted to play professional, so I've just got to put my best foot forward and get myself ready for that," said Campbell.

BASKETBALL

# Coleman's long journey

*Kyrie Coleman's career will end at Wilfrid Laurier after a lengthy ride*

DAVID DESSAU  
STAFF WRITER

Kyrie Coleman is a player who has continuously taken advantage of opportunities in his basketball career. The 6'7 forward has had a long journey before arriving at Wilfrid Laurier University this season.

Coleman grew up in Washington, D.C., where his family currently resides and knows that his parents are an important reason why he loves the game.

However, after a childhood where nothing came easy, basketball was more than just a game to him.

"Because I grew up in poverty, I just felt like I did it to stay out of trouble," he said.

Following high school, he took two years off to figure out what he wanted to do with his life. During that time, he decided he wanted to play the game he loved.

"I just wanted to play ball again and I got the opportunity to come to Canada. I got recruited to Brandon [University] in Manitoba."

Over the two years he was at Brandon University, Coleman put up strong numbers posting 9.8 points per game to go along with 6.8 rebounds per game in 24 games played with the Bobcats.

After his time in Manitoba, Coleman decided to go in a new direction and go to Edmonton for a year. However he explained being so far away from home wasn't the right fit for him.

"After a year in Edmonton I missed

home. I had the opportunity to go to [the University of Waterloo], which allowed me to be closer to home," he said.

"[Home] is only an hour flight from Toronto — that's why I wanted to come to the East Coast."

Despite being closer to home, he still felt he was missing something and took a year off after his year at UW. This eventually led him to Laurier.

"I just decided to dedicate my last year to a smaller school but I didn't want to move out the area. So I decided on Laurier," he said.

According to Coleman, he had a lot of respect for Will Coulthard, a fourth-year guard, who opened the doors and helped him become a vital part of the Hawks core group.

"He's accepted me. Because it's hard coming from a different team and you want to get respect from the best player, and from day one, he gave me respect and came and talked to me ... and I respect that," he said.

Coleman is the oldest player on the Golden Hawks current active roster.

When asked what he brings to the team, he said he believes his experience and maturity are key virtues in his ability to provide strong leadership to the club as well as be a dynamic player.

"I bring leadership and toughness. I feel like I bring a lot of defence, rebounding and some scoring ... and I get the guys going," he said. "I take criticism very well and I could



Power forward Kyrie Coleman grew up in Washington D.C. and played out west before arriving at Wilfrid Laurier. WILL HUANG/PHOTO EDITOR

give guys criticism too. Guys look up to me on the team. They give me respect. They were really open to me when I came here."

When asked about how he feels Laurier compares to the other schools he has been a part of, he was profoundly satisfied with his choice for his final year.

"This school is a smaller school compared to the other ones I've been to. The athletics around here is supported by everyone. Everybody is full of school spirit and enthusiasm and that is the reason why I like this school," he said.

In four games this year he is averaging 11 points, 7.5 rebounds to go along with 48.6% shooting from the field. He has averaged 30 minutes of play per game.

Coleman ended up at Wilfrid Laurier through the ability to take advantage of opportunities and his love of the game of basketball. As for his goals for the team and the upcoming season, Coleman's message is simple.

"As long as we compete and give it our best every time we step out on the court, anything can happen," he said.

"I bring leadership and toughness. I feel like bring a lot of defence, rebounding and some scoring."

-Kyrie Coleman, forward